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Japan

Trade Minister Returns From U.S. Visit

OW2803081393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0800 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori returned home Sunday from a three-day trip to Washington.

He went for talks on bilateral trade issues with U.S. administration officials, including U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, ahead of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's first summit meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton on April 16. During his stay in the U.S. capital, Mori was urged to open the Japanese market further, particularly in the fields of cars, supercomputers and semiconductors.

Discusses Ron Brown Meeting

OW2603232593 Tokyo KYODO in English 2308 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 26 KYODO—U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown met Japan's Trade Minister Yoshiro Mori on Friday and urged Tokyo to slash its 49 billion dollar trade surplus with the United States by importing more American goods and services.

Japanese officials said Brown specifically mentioned medical equipment, supercomputers and computers as business areas where Washington wants effective action from Tokyo. "We need to produce results in trade," Brown reportedly told the Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry.

Brown also called for wider access to the Japanese market in industrial sectors such as autos, auto parts, semiconductors, paper products and flat glass, Japanese officials said. The meeting was Mori's first after arriving in Washington in a trip aimed at smoothing over edgy U.S.-Japanese trade ties ahead of the summit meeting next month between Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and President Bill Clinton.

Mori also met Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, and called on Vice President Al Gore at the White House later in the day.

Mori's meeting with Brown, held at Dulles national airport shortly after his arrival Friday morning, focused exclusively on bilateral trade issues and both sides described the atmosphere as cordial. "We had a very cordial and open discussion...and mainly we discussed our relations and our effort to expand trade with Japan," Brown told reporters after emerging from the airport meeting.

Brown gave no details of his talk with Mori but Japanese officials said Brown expressed strong concern about Japan's vast trade surplus with the U.S. and other developed nations of the world. Japan's trade surplus "is an important issue not only for America but also for the rest of the world," Brown was quoted as telling Mori.

The Japanese trade minister promised that Tokyo will promote imports but stressed the U.S. must also make its industries more competitive if it wants to sell more in the Japanese market.

Mori also vented some of Tokyo's grievances in the fractious trade ties between the two countries. Japanese officials said Mori voiced Tokyo's concern about U.S. moves to revive the so-called "Super 301" trade law, a measure designed to give the U.S. Government greater power to retaliate against foreign trade practices. Trade issues should be settled "through negotiations and not unilateral actions," Mori told Brown.

In addition, Mori complained about the steel dumping lawsuit filed against Japan and other major steel exporters to the U.S., saying the case has dealt a "significant setback" to international efforts to regulate global steel trade.

Despite their differences on most bilateral trade issues, Brown and Mori agreed that the world economy would be much better off if Japan pumps up its recession-battered economy.

Japanese officials said Brown urged the Japanese Government to launch a fresh stimulus package and Mori said a recovery in the Japanese economy should help pare down Japan's enormous trade surplus with the rest of the world.

Mori is scheduled to return to Tokyo on Sunday [28 March].

Promises To 'Promote Imports'

OW2703025693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0244 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Washington, March 26 KYODO—The United States urged Japan on Friday to set aside a specific amount of government outlays for foreign products, saying such share allocation would signal Japan's commitment to "open markets."

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor presented the new U.S. trade policy to Japan's Trade Minister Yoshiro Mori in a meeting that highlighted sharp differences between the two sides on how to tackle Japan's embarrassingly large trade surplus. Kantor also sought specific Japanese commitments for market share over a wide range of products—such as supercomputers, autos and semiconductors—that the U.S. feels American producers are denied a fair crack at penetrating.

Kantor "pointed out the importance of including a specific allocation for foreign goods and services by the Japanese Government ...as a signal to the world and to Japan's private sector that the government is fully committed to open markets," Kantor's office said in a press release following the hourlong meeting.

Mori arrived in Washington earlier Friday in a bid to tackle bilateral trade issues ahead of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's first summit meeting with president Bill Clinton on April 16.

In a series of meetings with senior U.S. Administration officials, the Japanese International Trade and Industry minister heard a barrage of U.S. demands that Japan slash its 49 billion dollar trade surplus with the U.S. by importing more American goods and services.

Before his meeting with Kantor, Mori also held talks with U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, and called on Vice President Al Gore at the white house.

Japanese officials briefing reporters on Mori's meeting with Kantor indicated that the two top trade officials found little common ground on most bilateral trade issues brought up during the session. On the politically sensitive issue of semiconductor trade, Mori rejected Kantor's demand that foreign microchip producers get "beyond 20 percent" of the Japanese market this year, Japanese officials said.

Mori argued that the semiconductor trade accord Japan and the U.S. concluded in 1991 does not provide for such a market-share arrangement, Japanese officials said.

What is important, Mori told Kantor, is for the two countries to boost foreign-made semiconductor sales in Japan.

By contrast, Kantor indicated that the U.S. wants some form of guarantee by the Japanese Government of a specific market share for foreign products in Japan. Kantor "stressed the importance of achieving gradual and steady improvement in market access beyond the 20 percent level" attained in the fourth quarter of last year, his office said.

Kantor also pressed Japan to "meet its pledge" to expand sales of U.S. auto parts to Japanese auto manufacturers, handing Mori a joint letter from him and Brown formally asking the Japanese Government to outline the steps Tokyo plans to take. According to Japanese officials, Kantor gave the letter to Mori toward the end of their meeting as a "parting gift."

Japanese officials said Mori told Kantor during the meeting that the Japanese Government has no role in the commitment Japanese automakers made in 1992 to increase the sourcing of U.S.-made auto parts to 19 billion dollars by 1994.

In a separate meeting with Mori, Brown expressed strong concern about Japan's vast trade surplus with the U.S. and other developed nations of the world. Japan's trade surplus "is an important issue not only for America but also for the rest of the world," Brown was quoted as telling Mori.

The Japanese trade minister promised that Tokyo will promote imports but stressed that the U.S. must also make its industries more competitive if it wants to sell more in the Japanese market. [passage omitted]

Watanabe Interviewed on Issue of Aid to Russia

OW2803064093 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0000 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe by NHK Commentator Yasuhiro Kamishina on 27 March; place not given; from the "Panel Discussion" program—recorded]

[Text] [Kamishina] Foreign Minister Watanabe, you are the supreme executive in charge of Japan's diplomacy, and you held talks with Russian President Yeltsin last summer. I want to ask you some straightforward questions.

[Watanabe] Yes, go ahead.

[Kamishina] First of all, do you think the possibility of President Yeltsin's being impeached or dismissed has diminished for the time being?

[Watanabe] Well, I think so. Judging from today's [27 March] news reports, I think that it is safe to say that the possibility has diminished because it is impossible for the parliament to dismiss Yeltsin unless a two-thirds majority of members is secured. A compromise has been proposed by a chief executive of the Constitutional Court. I think that they will discuss how the compromise should be handled. As various compromises—such as the idea of moving up the schedule for discussion of a constitutional revision, and election of the president and Congress of People's Deputies to late April—have been proposed, there will be many complications.

[Kamishina] What do you think are the key points of future developments as a whole?

[Watanabe] Yeltsin is the only president who has been elected by a vote. This is of great significance because he was elected by the people. So, I think that in fact, the idea of dismissing Yeltsin itself is questionable because his term of office has not yet ended. Moreover, as you know, President Yeltsin has hammered out various reform plans. Namely, he proposed the promotion of a democracy which is similar to ours; diplomacy based on law and justice; privatization; the abolishment of repressive measures; freedom of speech, and so forth. Therefore, the West, or the family of free nations, for its part has decided to support the Yeltsin-proposed reform line including the promotion of arms reduction. In view of this, if Russia should take a reverse line, the West's position will also change. I think this is a key point.

[Kamishina] Another great concern is what sort of assistance the West will extend to Russia. Among Western nations, French President Mitterrand as well as German Foreign Minister Kinkel have criticized Japan for being negative about aid to Russia. How do you respond to this?

[Watanabe] Well, there is no doubt that for a long time, since the end of World War II, Japan and Russia have been fighting against each other—this may be an improper expression—or the two countries have faced a situation in which they are opposed to each other and have failed to conclude a peace treaty. Although Russia is not a potential enemy, the fact is that Russia's existence has had a great impact on Japan's defense policy. Furthermore, after the war, in violation of international law, Russia took Japanese territory, and took 600,000 Japanese people, starving nearly 60,000 people to death. In view of these facts, of course we have bad feelings toward Russia. But since the new Russian Government has said that it will abandon Stalinism and adopt a new sense of value, Japan intends to put aside its long-standing demand—the package return of the four territorial islands—and take an expanded equilibrium policy [kakudai kinko] to settle the issue by mutual concession. It is true that the international community, as predicted, is concerned over the possibility that the Yeltsin government will collapse and Russia will then take the old Communist line instead. But I think the Yeltsin government will not collapse, probably because of the fear of the possible recurrence of competition to expand arms. Although there may be no possibility of the reemergence of communism, it is true that there is still concern about such a possibility. So, Japan is supporting Yeltsin's ongoing reform plan to protect the Yeltsin government from collapsing. For example, at the Paris Club—which is composed of major creditor nations including Japan and is a major creditor of Russia's official foreign debts—Japan has agreed to shelve Russia's repayment of debts for decades. Japan also agreed to allow Russia to join the IMF because Japan is the largest stockholder in the IMF following the United States. In this sense, it is a great mistake to say that Japan has failed to do anything about Russia. Since there is a lack of understanding, Japan, as a member of the international community, is publicizing its position of helping Russia with great emphasis.

[Kamishina] Regarding aid to Russia, a foreign and finance ministers' meeting will be held on 14-15 April. Are you going to chair the meeting?

[Watanabe] Yes, the finance minister and myself will serve as cochairmen; I will be first chairman. As for the topic of the meeting, like French President Mitterrand some people are calling for an emergency summit. But the prevailing view differs from this view. Some people may wonder what topics should be discussed. If we should fail to achieve any fruitful results despite our enthusiasm, we would be regarded as crying wolf. So, we need to be prepared for the summit. For that purpose, a working-level meeting should be held among foreign and finance ministers to discuss what they can do about Russia. Russia has made many requests. For example, as I said earlier, there is the issue of Russia's repayment of foreign debts amounting to approximately $70 billion. Of the total debts, Russia is required to pay $15-16 billion which should have been paid last year and should be paid this year.

[Kamishna] Unpaid?

[Watanabe] Yes, unpaid debts. In addition to this issue, there is the issue concerning provision of $6 billion to Russia to stabilize the currency. However, this has not yet been carried out because of the Russian situation. Russia has asked Western nations to help it promote the privatization of state-run enterprises and develop small businesses, including the distribution business. I believe that Russia cannot simply turn its huge state-run enterprises into major private enterprises. Russia has asked Western nations to help it develop small businesses and the energy industry which is the key to Russia's export industry. The development of new oil fields could take five to seven years, and their development needs entails the construction of pipelines and other large-scale development. I think Russia's traditional industries are now suffering low productivity as a result of a shortage of parts, the inability to repair, and mechanical failures. I think that if proper steps are taken to restructure them, 80 to 90 percent of Russia's traditional industries could be put back into normal operation.

[Kamishina] How many aid programs will be provided?

[Watanabe] It has not been decided yet. I mentioned Russia's requests, among which some are impossible. For example, Russia has asked to extend aid to improve the social safety net. We asked what that means and the Russian side said that it means security for people who live on a pension or unemployment insurance because they are unable to make a living because of price hikes. This would mean that the international community would take care of people who are unable to make a living, in the form of social security, while leaving inflation as it is. I do not think that we can accept this. Moreover, Russia has asked us to conduct safety inspections and provide safety technology for defective nuclear power plants. We are cooperating in this field because it is necessary to prevent accidents. Concerning the eradication of nuclear weapons, which is the ultimate purpose, this issue is not a matter which can be solved right now. We have to make an order of priority. During the course of making this order, we may come up with other new possible aid programs. So, we intend to discuss the issue of aid to Russia with other industrialized nations. We were often asked if Japan would invite Yeltsin to the summit. The Japanese Government informed Russia yesterday that Japan will invite President Yeltsin. Regarding the issue of holding an emergency summit, I cannot say now whether or not we will hold the summit. But we intend to bring up this issue at the foreign and finance ministers' meeting. Through the meeting, we want to find out other nations' positions. So, we want to discuss the details of aid to Russia in preparation for the summit. Some people may say that we could merely make the situation favorable for Yeltsin when the national referendum is held in April, by hammering out a large-scale political campaign. But I am of the opinion that this view is questionable and more assistance is needed. This is my opinion.

[Kamishina] You said that Japan intends to take a positive attitude toward extending aid to Russia. Will the northern territorial issue be dealt with as a separate issue from aid to Russia?

[Watanabe] Yes. We cannot forget the northern territorial issue, and of course, we have indicated our position on this. Regarding aid to Russia, Japan is not the only nation which extends huge amounts of money. Aid to Russia will be provided under international cooperation. We reject a call for Japan alone to bear the cost. We cannot provide aid under such a situation from our people's standpoint. Our people may wonder why only Japanese people have to bear all the cost through a tax increase. If the people wanted to, I could accept the call; but there are few people who call for Japan alone to provide aid. We will carry out our task as a member of the international community. But if Japan should provide a huge amount of money to special development projects such as the development of Siberia under an unstable situation wherein a peace treaty has not yet been concluded, I do not think that the private sector would follow the government because of fears that they would not profit from what they invested in.

[Kamishina] Thank you very much.

Miyazawa Formally Invites Yeltsin to Summit

OW2703132193 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 27 Mar 93

[From "NHK News" program]

[Text] Nobuo Matsunaga, government representative in charge of foreign policy affairs, is currently in a meeting with Russian President Yeltsin in the Kremlin which began at 1800 this evening Japan time. At the meeting, Mr. Matsunaga handed to President Yeltsin a personal letter from Prime Minister Miyazawa, inviting the Russian president to the Tokyo Summit scheduled for July. President Yeltsin is believed to be meeting Mr. Matsunaga, the Japanese Government representative in charge of foreign policy affairs despite the political crisis in Russia because he appreciates the efforts of the Japanese Government in coordinating the views of the seven industrial powers on the issue of aid to Russia which will be under discussion at the Tokyo summit.

Now that the prime minister has formally invited Russian President Yeltsin to the Tokyo summit, the Foreign Ministry believes that Japan-Russia relations, which have remained chilly since last September when the Russian president abruptly canceled his planned visit to Japan, might be moving toward improvement.

Yeltsin Pledges To Attend

OW2703134693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1326 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Moscow, March 27 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin thanked Japan on Saturday for helping the country's reforms and pledged to attend July's Tokyo economic summit of leaders of the world's seven major powers, a senior Japanese official said. Yeltsin made the remark at a meeting in the Kremlin with Japanese Government emissary Nobuo Matsunaga.

Matsunaga, a former ambassador to the United States and currently the government representative on external affairs, told reporters he conveyed to Yeltsin Japan's formal invitation to the Tokyo summit. He also delivered to Yeltsin a personal letter from Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. The content of the letter is not available.

It was the first time the Russian president personally promised to attend the July 7-9 summit which will bring together the heads of state or government from the Group of Seven (G-7) countries—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Matsunaga also said he told Yeltsin of a G-7 ministerial meeting to be held in Tokyo on April 14-15 to discuss aid to Russia. Yeltsin was quoted as saying he will dispatch a responsible minister to the conference. He, however, did not say who will attend the ministerial session, Matsunaga said.

Deputy Prime Minister Boris Fedorov or Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev or both are expected to join the April ministerial meeting, diplomatic sources said.

Matsunaga said the meeting with Yeltsin proceeded in an amicable atmosphere.

Matsunaga said he and Yeltsin did not talk over reports that the president will extend his stay in Tokyo after the summit to pay an official visit to Japan. Last year, Yeltsin canceled a visit to Japan set for mid- September, and later blamed Japan for the cancellation because of its tough demands for the return of four Russian-occupied islands off Hokkaido.

On Friday, Japan announced in Tokyo it would invite Yeltsin for talks with G-7 leaders at the Tokyo summit, in what was seen as a show of support for the embattled president who faces a showdown with conservatives in the Russian legislature. Japan at the same time announced that foreign and finance ministers from the G-7 countries will meet in Tokyo on April 14-15 to discuss substantial steps to assist Russia.

Matsunaga Briefs Miyazawa on Moscow Visit

OW2903040893 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 29 Mar 93

[From "NHK News" program]

[Text] Government Representative Nobuo Matsunaga returned home this morning after his trip to Moscow to meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Upon his arrival in Tokyo, Matsunaga called on Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to convey President Yeltsin's appreciation for Japan's initiative in working out the Group of Seven's [G-7] aid package to Russia.

During the meeting, Government Representative Matsunaga said that President Yeltsin accepted Miyazawa's invitation to the G-7 summit in Tokyo. He added that

President Yeltsin also expressed thanks for Japan's initiative in setting up the G-7 ministerial talks in Tokyo on 14-15 April, saying that he appreciates Japan's support for Russia's reform efforts.

Territorial Issue 'Not' To Be Raised at Summit

OW2903122893 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 29 Mar 93

[From "NHK News" program]

[Text] Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe touched on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan to attend the Tokyo Summit, set for July, at a session of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Councilors on 29 March. Watanabe stated that Japan would not link the Tokyo Summit to bilateral issues between Japan and Russia. Thus, he disclosed for the first time Japan's intention not to bring up the northern territorial issue at the Tokyo summit. Watanabe made the statement in reply to a question by Osamu Isomura of the Democratic Reform Party.

In his remarks, Foreign Minister Watanabe stated that Japan would not connect the Tokyo Summit with bilateral issues between Japan and Russia; and that bringing up the territorial issue would cause confusion at the summit meeting. Watanabe, thus, disclosed for the first time that Japan has no intention of bringing up the northern territorial issue at the Tokyo Summit.

Foreign nations are critical that Japan has taken a negative attitude toward the issue of aid to Russia—which is expected to become a focal point at the Tokyo Summit—due to the northern territorial dispute with Russia. Russian President Yeltsin is now in a difficult domestic situation. Taking such facts into consideration, Foreign Minister Watanabe indicated the Japanese Government's stance to positively deal with aid to Russia.

On the other hand, Foreign Minister Watanabe stated that the northern islands are part of Japan's inherent territories—Japan will continue to request the return of the islands. In this way, he stressed that Japan's basic stance on the northern territorial issue remains unchanged.

Power Firm Plans Exchange Program With PRC

OW2603125293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1113 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Takamatsu, March 26 KYODO—Shikoku Electric Power Co. said Friday it will exchange technologies and trainees with a Chinese electric power supplier in the near future. An agreement on the plan will be signed on April 6, company officials said.

The Chinese firm, Northwest China Electric Power Group, is one of the five largest electric power suppliers in China, providing some 52 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity a year for five provinces such as Shaanxi and Gansu in the nation's northwest area. Details of the program are to be discussed each year on subjects such as exchanging experts and trainees as well as technologies, the officials said.

In terms of technology, the Chinese firm is particularly interested in technology for disposing nitrogen compounds and sulfur oxides, they added.

SRV Premier Vo Van Kiet Ends Visit

OW2803072093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0648 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Osaka, March 28 KYODO—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on Sunday afternoon left the western Japan city of Osaka for home at the end of a five-day official visit to Japan.

In separate talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe last week Kiet won Japanese backing for Vietnam's economic liberalization and reforms known as "Doi Moi." Tokyo also pledged to resume loans for selected infrastructure projects in fiscal 1993, starting April 1.

In addition, two grants worth up to 684 million yen to help Hanoi buy medical equipment and forest machinery were formalized during Kiet's visit.

The Vietnamese prime minister also met Emperor Akihito in an audience.

Kiet was the first Vietnamese premier to visit since Tokyo and Hanoi established diplomatic ties in 1973.

Aid for Mozambique, Angolan Refugees Extended

OW2603113593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1100 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Japan will provide 300 million yen in relief assistance for displaced people in Mozambique and Angola, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. The announcement follows Japan's decision earlier in the day to send some 50 Self-Defense Forces personnel to participate in a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Mozambique.

Officials said 150 million yen will be contributed to the International Red Cross for its efforts to assist war-displaced persons in Mozambique and 50 million for similar work in Angola. The remaining 100 million yen will go to the United Nations Children's Fund to support its activities in Mozambique.

Ex-Im Bank Plans First Overseas Investment

OW2603111793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance has decided to allow the governmental Export-Import [Exim] Bank of Japan to invest in a port project in Los Angeles, ministry sources said Friday. This will be the first overseas investment by the bank since a law on its activities was revised in 1989 to allow such investments and is regarded as a recycle fund aimed at diffusing overseas criticism about the country's ballooning trade surplus.

The sources said the bank will provide 12 million dollars to the project, or 10 percent of the 120 million dollar of total costs. Other Japanese financiers, including major trading houses and steel makers, will finance a combined 49 percent of the total costs, with the remaining 51 percent funded by the U.S. side.

The financial agency has traditionally engaged in trade finance for Japanese imports and exports, untied loans to developing nations, and financial guarantees for Japanese commercial banks willing to loan to poor countries. Even after the legal revision was made, the bank's activities remained limited due mostly to the unresolved problem concerning how to distinguish its activities from those of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), another government financial agency.

The sources said the Exim Bank will engage mainly in investments in industrial nations, while the OECF will focus its investments on developing countries.

Prosecutors Raid Bus Firm in Kanemaru Scandal

OW2603033293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0218 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Tokyo prosecutors raided the headquarters of Kokusai Kogyo Co. on Friday morning on suspicion that the Tokyo bus operator had made unlawful contributions to fallen ruling party kingmaker Shin Kanemaru. Over 100 prosecutors and investigators went to Kokusai Kogyo's head office near Tokyo station.

A minor scuffle developed as several Kokusai Kogyo officials tried to prevent photographers and cameramen from entering the building.

Kanemaru, who is accused of evading taxes despite massive holdings of discount bank debentures, gold bars and cash, quit as vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and retired from politics last year after admitting accepting an illegal political donation.

Kanemaru Indicted for Additional Tax Evasion

OW2703084693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0701 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—Prosecutors indicted former ruling party paymaster Shin Kanemaru on Saturday on an additional tax evasion charge on 1.65 billion yen in income. The allegedly concealed income comprises 1 billion yen for 1988 and 650 million yen for 1989, prosecution officials said.

The second indictment filed by the Tokyo district public prosecutors office against Kanemaru, former vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), followed an endorsement at Friday's meeting of the country's top prosecutors. The additional indictment came on the day Kanemaru's 22-day detention period expires.

The 78-year-old Kanemaru, who until six months ago was the don of Japanese politics, was first indicted on March 13 for allegedly evading taxes of 118 million yen on 700 million yen in income in 1987.

Kanemaru is suspected of using part of under-the-table donations he received from companies, mostly in the construction sector, to amass billions of yen worth on personal assets in discount bank debentures, gold bars, stocks and real estate, according to investigative sources. He has been behind bars at the Tokyo detention house since he was arrested on March 6.

Kanemaru, who was known as the leader of the LDP's construction lobby, is suspected of wielding his influence over the distribution of public works projects to general contractors, the sources said. He retired from politics in disgrace in October after being fined 200,000 yen for accepting 500 million yen in illicit political funds from a now-defunct trucking company at the center of a separate scandal.

Masahisa Haibara, 49, Kanemaru's former secretary indicted along with his boss on similar grounds, was also indicted for a second time for collusion with Kanemaru and his own tax evasion by hiding 570 million yen for four years from 1988. Haibara was arrested on March 6 on suspicion of diverting 200 million yen on 400 million yen in income from 1987 and 1991. He was subsequently indicted for allegedly dodging 26 million yen in income tax on undeclared income of at least 50 million yen in 1987.

Tax Authorities To Probe Contractors' Donations

OW2803115893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0647 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO—Tax authorities will investigate secret donations by major general contractors to fallen political power broker Shin Kanemaru to see if they handled the money properly in terms of tax payments, well-placed sources said Sunday. More than a dozen construction contractors in Tokyo and Osaka are suspected of offering covert contributions to the 78-year-old Kanemaru, a former ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) vice president.

Kanemaru has been indicted on charges of concealing 1.85 billion yen in income and dodging roughly a billion yen in taxes from 1987 to 1989.

His former trusted aide Masahisa Haibara, 48, has been also indicted for allegedly hiding millions of yen in income from 1987 to 1991, evading a few hundred millions of yen in taxes.

The general contractors include five leading companies, Kajima Corp., Shimizu Corp., Taisei Corp., Obayashi Corp. and Hazama Corp.

Kanemaru, who had once enormous political clout in the LDP, allegedly received the illegal money in return of his help in assigning public work projects to the companies and siphoned off some of the funds to boost his personal assets, the sources said.

The tax authorities will impose additional taxes on the contractors if the donations proved to have come from unreported income, the sources said. The construction industry as a whole was responsible for about 70 percent of the 55.8 billion yen in unreported income for all industries in 1991, they said.

Kanemaru and Haibara are expected to be released from the Tokyo detention house Monday on bail. The two have been in custody since they were arrested on suspicion of violating the Income Tax Law on March 6.

Opposition Parties Urge Anticorruption Measures

OW2703133693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—Opposition parties voiced their resolve Saturday to knuckle down to prevent Japan's recurring political funding scandals after former ruling party power broker Shin Kanemaru was indicted on new charges of massive tax evasion. The country's two largest opposition parties—the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] and Komeito—hope to seize this opportunity to take the initiative in parliamentary debate on political reform, sources in the two parties said.

SDPJ Secretary General Hirotaka Akamatsu, noting the money Kanemaru allegedly concealed from tax authorities came in effect from bribes, said he strongly hopes there will be a complete investigation into Kanemaru's abuses.

Kanemaru, 78, a former vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was indicted for allegedly diverting 920 million yen in taxes on 1.65 billion yen in undeclared income in 1988 and 1989. He is suspected of having used money from some under-the-table donations he received from companies, mostly in the construction sector, to fatten his personal fortune, investigative sources said.

Akamatsu said, "Politics would be forsaken unless sweeping political reform was implemented."

Hidehiko Yaoi, vice chairman of Komeito, said the tax evasion case involving the former don of Japanese politics is "a historic incident that symbolizes the corruption stemming from money politics."

Indignant at the shady ties between Kanemaru and general contractors, Kansei Nakano, policy board chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, vowed to push ahead with tighter regulations over political funding and other political reform efforts.

Shogo Abe, secretary general of the United Social Democratic Party, urged the prosecution to get to the heart of the relations between politicians and business sectors, saying, "The case should not be brought to an end with the additional indictments."

Kazuo Shii, chief of the Japanese Communist Party secretariat, also demanded an immediate ban on contributions to legislators by corporations.

Upper House Plans Political Ethics Resolution

OW2803065693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO—The House of Councillors is likely to adopt a resolution on political ethics and political reforms in the wake of a huge money-and-mobster scandal, ruling and opposition party sources said Sunday. The upper house is expected to adopt the first-ever Diet resolution on political morals in a bid to restore people's trust of politics, the sources said.

The resolution, with input from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and opposition parties, is expected this month or in early April, they added.

A draft resolution said a series of political scandals have boosted public distrust of politics. It said Japan's parliamentary democracy will lapse into a serious crisis unless political reform is achieved. It also urged the government to push ahead with political reforms, the sources said.

The LDP and opposition parties reached agreement on the matter as the opposition parties have dropped their demand that former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita take political responsibility for his alleged role in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, the sources added.

Takeshita has been under fire for allegedly using an underworld leader's influence to quell a rightist smear campaign against him in 1987 during his successful attempt to gain the LDP presidency, a post that automatically made him prime minister. Takeshita, during sworn testimony at the Diet in December and February, denied having any part in the affair and refused to retire from politics.

Parties' Assembly Strength 'Almost Unchanged'

OW2803115393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0952 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 28 KYODO—Seat allocations in prefectural and municipal assemblies remained almost unchanged over the last year, according to a survey released Sunday by the Home Affairs Ministry.

As of the end of 1992, the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) with 55.7 percent held the lion's share of seats in prefectural assemblies throughout the nation, the survey shows. Despite losing about 24 seats in 1992, the LDP still holds 1,613 of a total of 2,896 assembly posts.

Independent prefectural assembly members make up the second strongest faction with 16.2 percent or 468 posts. In third place comes the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the biggest opposition party on the national level, with 383 assembly members or 13.2 percent.

They are followed by Komeito with 190 representatives or 6.6 percent, the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) with 114 prefectural legislators or 3.9 percent, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) with 82 seats or 2.8 percent, and the United Social Democratic Party (USDP) with four assembly members or 0.1 percent.

In municipal assemblies nationwide more than two-thirds of the seats are held by independents. The survey shows 49,081 of a total 62,464 assembly members in city, town and village councils are not members of a political party, representing 78.5 percent.

With 3,795 municipal legislators or 6.1 percent, the communists are the second biggest contingent, followed by Komeito with 3,052 representatives or 4.9 percent, and the LDP with 2,969 assembly members or 4.8 percent.

The women's share in prefectural assemblies did not increase in 1992, as only 82 women held a seat. Nevertheless, 56 more women made their way into municipal assemblies in 1992, bringing the total to 2,076 assemblywomen.

Japan's longest serving governor is Yoichi Nakanishi, who is serving his eighth four-year term in Ishikawa Prefecture. Kunizo Shibuya, mayor of Kiyose in Tokyo, who has been elected nine times, holds the record for city mayors.

Topping the list of village heads are the mayors of Aoki in Nagano Prefecture and Geisei, Kochi Prefecture, who both are serving their 12th term in office.

With Mitsuyo Sawa having been elected mayor of Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture, in November 1992, Japan now has three female mayors. Ashiya in Hyogo Prefecture and Tanagura in Fukushima Prefecture are also headed by women.

Ministry Decides To Add to Investment Program

OW2603115793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1139 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance has decided to earmark an additional 588.1 billion yen to the investment and loans program under the fiscal 1992 budget, ministry officials said Friday. The officials said the decision was endorsed by the ministry's advisory panel, the Trust Fund Council, at its meeting Friday.

Of the total amount, 498.1 billion yen will be allotted to the JNR [Japan National Railways] Accounts Settlement Corp., which is responsible for disposing of the assets and long-term debts of the defunct Japanese National Railways, the officials said. The remaining 90 billion yen will be appropriated to the government's Small Business Finance Corp., they said.

It will be the fourth time for the government to set aside additional funds to the fiscal investment and loans program in the current fiscal year ending on March 31. With the addition of the new funds, the program's scale will swell to 46,727.6 billion yen.

Ministry To Loosen Corporate Bond Issue Rules

OW2603124893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1231 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance will relax its restrictions on issues of corporate bonds starting on April 1 in a bid to encourage companies to raise funds by this means, ministry officials said Friday. As a result, companies with a triple-B credit rating or higher will be allowed to issue nonguaranteed straight bonds and warrant bonds, instead of needing to have an A or higher rating as at present.

Japan's corporate bond market, though still underdeveloped, has been rapidly expanding in recent years while the stock market remained in the doldrums.

In view of the greater role the market is playing in corporate fund-raising, the ministry plans sweeping overhauls of government regulations on corporate bond issues in two years, the officials said.

EPA Head Says Land Prices Need Lowering

OW2603032093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0239 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Economic Planning Agency [EPA] head Hajime Funada on Friday said the government needs to bring down land prices in order to accomplish its target of improving the quality of life in Japan.

Funada made the remark to reporters in connection with a government announcement Thursday [25 March] that land prices across the country declined for the second straight year in 1992. He said that if the government's five-year plan to boost the quality of life is taken into account, land prices still remain high despite the report by the National Land Agency.

The plan aims to allow workers to acquire houses at prices equal to their five-year annual income.

Referring to a Bank of Japan report that the nation's leading economic indicator rose to the boom-or-bust level of 50 percent in January, Funada said the figure reflected encouraging signs of improvement in machinery orders and money supply. He added, however, the domestic economy still remains under severe conditions.

Hayashi 'Anticipates' Lowering of Land Prices

OW2603045593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0322 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi on Friday said he anticipates further decline of Japan's land prices and added there is no talk of cutting the land value tax.

Speaking at a regular news conference after a cabinet meeting, Hayashi said the land value tax, introduced in April 1992, is to be raised to 0.3 percent starting next month from 0.2 percent. This is a program based on long-term perspectives to relieve Japanese people's excessively strong attachment to holding land, he said.

Hayashi's remarks came in the wake of government statistics released Thursday showing that land prices in Japan for 1992 fell 8.4 percent from a year earlier. It was the first time since the data was first compiled in 1970 that the figure has dropped for two consecutive years.

But the finance minister said the prices could decline even further, and that he is not considering changing capital gain taxes on land as well.

No specific remarks were made with regard to a potential economic stimulation program nor aid to Russia.

It was the first time that Hayashi had used a podium for his news briefing, following criticism that he murmurs and is difficult to understand clearly.

Asked how he feels about using the podium, the finance minister said, "standing makes me straighten up," and promised to also make his remarks straightforward.

LDP Fears Economic Package's Effect on Stocks

OW2703063593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party is exercising extreme caution in mapping out a new pump-priming package for fear it may cause an adverse effect on the stock market recovery, party sources said Saturday. Party leaders remain tight lipped on the size of the package to be completed in mid-April.

The sources said the LDP program calls for outlays totaling about 13 trillion to 14 trillion yen while the securities industry expects a larger-scale package totaling about 20 trillion yen.

LDP leaders are concerned that the new package may spark selling by investors who are displeased with the scale of expenditures, the sources said.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the party's Policy Affairs Research Council, said in a recent commercial TV interview that the package will total about 14 trillion yen. Mitsuzuka, however, declined to go into details when asked about the new program at a later news conference held in Niigata.

Former State Minister Toshio Komoto, in a meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Wednesday, urged the government to implement a large-scale package worth about 20 trillion yen.

The Tokyo stock exchange made a strong comeback after the ruling party unveiled plans to carry out additional pump-priming measures. The key Nikkei index closed at the year's high of 18,788.70 Friday [26 March].

The new package will be completed before the Japan-U.S. summit between Miyazawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington April 16, the sources said.

Farm Minister Seeks Advice on Milk Price Cut

OW2603051493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0446 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—The farm minister on Friday asked a ministry advisory body for advice on cutting state-guaranteed prices of milk paid to dairy farmers in fiscal 1993, ministry officials said.

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu asked the dairy products division of his ministry's livestock industry promotion council for advice on lowering the price by 1 yen to 75.75 yen per kilogram in the next fiscal year starting April 1. The price is a combination of the amount dairy product makers pay to dairy farmers and government subsidies.

Tanabu also proposed that the body look into reducing the amount of milk guaranteed by government subsidies by 50,000 tons to 2.35 million tons.

Negotiations between the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) ran into a snag Thursday when an LDP panel voiced opposition to the government plan to lower the price of milk for making butter and skim milk by 1.3 percent from fiscal 1992. The panel consisting of legislators from Hokkaido, which is Japan's biggest milk-producing area, requested that the milk price remain unchanged from the previous year.

The LDP will request an increase in the national budget allocation for dairy farming industry later in the day after the ministry adopts the council's advice, party sources said. If implemented, the price cut would be the first in two years.

Tokyo, LDP Agree Not To Change Milk Price

OW2703003393 Tokyo KYODO in English 2347 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party agreed Saturday to leave unchanged for fiscal 1993 the state-guaranteed price of milk used as a raw material for such processed dairy products as butter, Farm Ministry officials said. The current fixed price paid to dairy farmers is at 76.75 yen per kilogram.

After last-ditch negotiations over conflicting views, the final agreement came as Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu took in requests by the party's three related leaders to review the government proposal for price reduction, the officials said. The party, apparently in fear of losing dairy farmers' votes, had been demanding there be no price cuts.

The decision also includes a reduction by 50,000 tons to 2.35 million tons the ceiling on government subsidies to dairy farmers and a continuation of 2 yen per kilogram worth of emergency support scheduled for abolishment in fiscal 1992.

Chemical Plants Face Treaty Inspection

OW2703084793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—The Trade Ministry said Saturday about 100 chemical factories in Japan are liable to inspection by international organizations under an international treaty for a ban on chemical weapons. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry said 2,000 to 3,000 factories, about half of all chemical factories in Japan, will be required to submit reports on their operations to the government regularly.

Under the pact signed in Geneva last January and due to take effect in 1995, agricultural chemicals and semiconductor plants are required to accept inspection or submit regular reports to the government when they produce more than 200 tons of chemicals of a special type annually, ministry officials said.

Factories are divided into five categories according to levels of risks with those designed to manufacture chemicals weapons classified in the top ranking group. No Japanese factories belong to the top ranking category, the officials said.

The officials said factories manufacturing chemicals ranging from highly toxic cyanide to less harmful phosphorus, sulfur and fluorine will be subject to inspection by international organizations. The ministry plans to conduct a survey on chemical factories across the nation in fiscal 1993, starting April 1, they said.

North Korea

Reaction to DPRK Withdrawal From NPT Continues

Foreign Ministry Statement Issued

SK2903082493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0700 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Statement by unidentified DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on 29 March—read by announcer]

[Text] These days the United States and some officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Secretariat and some of its member countries, being manipulated by the United States, are manuevering to put sanctions on us by laying the issue of our country's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] before the U.N. Security Council [UNSC]. In this regard, a spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry issued the following statement on 29 March denouncing this.

Statement by the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry:

In connection with the fact that our country withdrew from the NPT, the United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and some of its member states, being manipulated by the United States, made the charge of our not implementing the safeguards accord, and are now circulating insidious public opinion that this issue should be transferred to the UNSC and that some sanctions should be put on us and so on. This is no more than a plot to threaten us to revoke our withdrawal from the NPT and make us accept the special inspection.

As to our withdrawal from the NPT, it is a self-defensive measure based on the right to exercise sovereign right and withdraw from it in case the signatory of the treaty considers that its supreme interests are threatened, as stipulated in the NPT. As has already been clearly stated in our Republic's Government statement, it was inevitable for us to withdraw from the NPT because of the abnormal state of affairs such as the United States, our hostile power, and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat abuse of the NPT by threatening the sovereign right and security of our country, a non-nuclear state, and to smash our socialist system. Therefore, there are no grounds to take the issue of our country's withdrawal from the NPT to the United Nations.

Babbling over our non-compliance with the safeguards accord is nothing but an attempt to find an excuse to distort the facts and put pressure on us.

After effectuating the safeguards accord, our country sincerely implemented the duties stipulated in the accord, and many members of the IAEA Board of Governors as well as the IAEA Secretariat have assessed and recognized this.

It is not us who failed to implement the safeguards accord. It is some officials of the IAEA Secretariat who acted on a script prearranged by the United States. They placed artificial obstacles in the way of our country's fulfillment of its obligations under the safeguards accord.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat stubbornly insisted on the so-called principal inconsistency which did not actually exist. They interfered with us so we could not implement the safeguards accord, and went to the lengths of trying to enforce inspection on our military sites [kunsa taesang] which has no relation to nuclear activities. They did this based on fabricated intelligence data from a third country. We have never violated the safeguards accord, nor have we invaded any country or threatened others.

Either in view of the statute and the safeguards accord of the agency or in view of the requirement of the U.N. Charter, there are no legal grounds for charging us with non-compliance with the safeguards accord and for taking this matter to the UNSC. There are no grounds for sanctions. In this regard, many important figures of the world in the political, social, academic, and publishing and press circles consistently recognize this.

Originally, the UNSC was a place where grave acts such as events that directly threaten world's peace and security were brought up and discussed.

Thus, it is none other than the United States that must be brought to the UN Security Council to face collective sanctions, the very one that has increased nuclear threats against nonnuclear states in contravention of its obligations under the NPT. It is a widely known fact that the United States has so far ignored the strong voice of the world which urges the nuclear weapon states to declare that they will not use nuclear weapons against signatories to the NPT.

What should not be overlooked is that the United States and some quarters of the IAEA apply a double standard to our country. To sign or withdraw from an international treaty is a matter of sovereignty of each country and nation.

The history of international organizations and international treaties show that there were countries which joined an international organization and signed its treaty, while some others refused to do so. Some countries joined it earlier and some others joined it later according to circumstances. Some countries, which joined it earlier, have withdrawn from it out of necessity. This is a natural occurrence in which no one has the right to intervene. The nuclear weapons development issue falls under this category. It is no secret that Japan is now accelerating its nuclear armament by stockpiling more plutonium than necessary and South Korea is actively going ahead with the development of nuclear weapons under the U.S. nuclear umbrella.

In the past period, nothing happened when some countries withdrew from international organizations for political reasons. No step was taken against some countries, though rumors were going around that they possessed nuclear weapons.

In particular, the United Nations has never taken issue with the U.S. privilege whereby it manufactures weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons and chemical weapons, sells them, and deploys them, as it wants.

Why, however, are the United States, some quarters of the IAEA Secretariat, and some member states of the IAEA so persistently taking issue with our development of nuclear weapons, which is fictitious? Why are they making a stir and cry over our withdrawal from the treaty which was an exercise of our sovereignty, as if something terrible took place.

In the final analysis, this must be related to the U.S. hostile policy to crush socialism of our own style. Herein lies the basic point.

They must know that any threat and blackmail, strong-armed act, or double-standard policy cannot work on our people who regard independence as highly as their existence.

The United States must abandon its hostile policy against us, withdraw its nuclear weapons and troops from South Korea, stop its nuclear threats against us, and commit itself to an unconditional guarantee of non-use of nuclear weapons against us.

The best way for this, we think, is to first of all build up mutual confidence between the DPRK and the United States and negotiations between them based on the principle of equality and reciprocity.

If the United States and its followers, some quarters of the IAEA Secretariat and some member states of the IAEA, unjustly bring our nuclear issue to the UN Security Council and continue to put pressure on us, we will not be able to avoid taking strong self-defensive measures.

DPRK Official to UN at Geneva Talks

SK2703052093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 27 Mar 93

["Gist" of speech given by Yi Chol, chief of the DPRK's permanent mission to the Geneva UN Secretariat, at the arms reduction talks in Geneva on 23 March]

[Text] Historic progress was made in North-South contacts during the year [1992] after the United States suspended the Team Spirit joint military exercise. This is proof that the United States determines security and peace on the Korean peninsula.

Resuming the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which had been suspended before the nuclear inspections started, is in no way justifiable, after North-South relations have improved; particularly after the North and South have declared nonaggression; and after nuclear inspections were under way. The threat from the Soviet Union, one of the pretexts for conducting the exercise, has disappeared. Given these facts, who can say that a situation has developed that would prompt the United States to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise? Who can say its mobilization of large-scale forces and other actions are not intended to oppose the DPRK?

The United States and the South Korean authorities have resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise, thus proving that they do not want detente, dialogue, and reunification on the Korean peninsula but are pursuing their strategic objective of crushing our republic to death.

Because the true intention of the United States has been proven again, the security of our country and our nation faces a grave danger.

The United States had an unprecedented resolution—enforcing special inspections [tukpyolsachal] on us—adopted. In this way, it has created a dangerous situation in which our republic's independence may be infringed on.

Whether or not the U.S. nuclear threat will be removed is a matter of life and death for our nation. Signing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] should first have led to the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons and the nuclear threat.

Late last year, to enforce special inspections, the IAEA suddenly began to pressure us, while talking about inconsistencies and military facilities [kunsadaesang]. The inconsistencies about which the IAEA is talking are caused by differences in methods of calculation, interpretation, and assessment; they are not inconsistencies in principle.

We provided explanations, the IAEA inspection team members accepted the cause of the inconsistencies in early February, and an agreement has been reached to reexamine the results of the IAEA's inspections and continue discussions during the next inspection.

This means that the negotiations must continue, and it is very clear that this issue cannot be used as a pretext to conduct mandatory inspections [kangjejoksachal].

Why then did some IAEA officials block the inspections, which had been conducted smoothly, and negotiations to resolve the inconsistencies; insist on only the results of their inspections; and rush to have the resolution on special inspection [tukpyolsachal] adopted?

The sixth inspection team promised that it would recalculate the data with regard to the inconsistencies upon arriving in Vienna on 8 February and inform our side of the results. Why then did the IAEA director general propose special inspections [tukpyolsachal] on 9 February, without giving the inspection team time to do the calculations?

The promise to recalculate the data and inform us of the results was replaced by the resolution on special inspections. This raised an obstacle to resolving the issue through negotiations. Nevertheless, our side continued its efforts to resolve the issue.

However, the IAEA insisted that it had not seen the documents which in fact it had seen during the inspections and broke up the negotiations for no reason, even after it had admitted to a fundamental mistake in its calculations and failed to refute our arguments.

The IAEA did this because the United States was forced to justify the resumption of the Team Spirit joint military exercise only by having the decision on special inspections [tukpyolsachal] adopted before 9 March, when the exercise was scheduled to start; and because the IAEA, whose nuclear inspections the United States criticized as not being trustworthy, was compelled to (?win recognition from the United States) by sacrificing our country, a small country.

Indeed, the resolution adopted at the 25 February Board of Governors meeting played a significant role in making the Team Spirit joint military exercise a reality. At the same time, the international community said that the reason given for resuming the exercise was dubious.

The United States and some officials at the IAEA Secretariat are now describing the two military facilities [kunsataesang] as nuclear facilities and, moreover, are spreading rumors that we rejected their inspections because they were nuclear facilities.

We have never refused the IAEA's request for visits to nuclear facilities [haektaesang]. The United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat have a very dangerous purpose in raising the issue of the special inspection of two military facilities [kunsadaesang].

The IAEA director general informed joint hearings of the U.S. House of Representatives about our nuclear program last July, and there was a consultation in which the United States asked him to conduct special inspections [tukpyolsachal] and surprise inspections [kisupsachal] on us.

Following this, the IAEA director general suddenly asked us to show the two military facilities, which have nothing to do with the nuclear project, to the inspection team who were visiting the DPRK. This shows the close collusion between the Untied States and the IAEA.

However, we believed his intentions were good, considering the fact that it was the first proposal by the director general, and we showed the facilities to the inspection team. Even when the inspection team unreasonably asked for another inspection, we did not reject the request.

In the course of this, we finally gained the unpleasant impression that some IAEA officials had been carrying out some scheme, that surprise inspections [kisupsachal] had been conducted in actuality under the cloak of visits, and that our sovereignty had been violated. The inspectors could not help but acknowledge that those facilities [taesang] have nothing to do with nuclear activities.

All facts have proven that the IAEA has continuously been manipulated by the United States. The agency did not conceal the fact that it had relied on intelligence data provided by a third country.

It is now clear that the importance and urgency that they stressed meant the political pressure [on the DPRK] which resulted from the resolution of the 25 February Board of Governors meeting and the military threats which resulted from the U.S. Team Spirit joint military exercise, which started on 9 March.

The IAEA's inspections of our country have not been conducted based on the agency's statute and the safeguards accord but because of U.S. manipulation. This is a hard fact.

This shows that our sincerity toward the inspections has eventually been used by those—who consider us to be hostile—in [word indistinct] the inside of our country and infringing upon our sovereignty and dignity.

All facts have shown that the bigger the efforts we make to ease tension on the Korean peninsula, achieve national unity, and contribute to guaranteeing peace and security in Asia and the world and the more clearly the nuclear inspections prove that our nuclear policy is peaceful, the greater the danger to our republic.

No country or people will sit idly by with folded arms when a clear strategic attempt has been made to crush the country to death with force and political pressures and when, as a result, the people's destiny has been endangered.

Even though the Team Spirit joint military exercise has ended for this year, the nuclear, military, and political threats against us have not weakened but rather strengthened, assuming a new aspect.

The United States and its followers are now asking us to revoke our measure of withdrawing from the NPT and are trying to put new pressure on us and (?more seriously threaten us) by presenting this issue to the UN Security Council.

The United States once used forces to get rid of our republic. Also, it has not eased its pressure, blockade, or sanctions against us for even a moment. If the United States, a country of this sort, continuously pursues only a policy of strength, the hostile DPRK-U.S. relations will not be eased [chomisaie choktaegwangyenun pullilsuopsulgussida].

Trying to frighten our people while talking about isolation or sanctions is an attempt that the United States is making without clearly knowing our people who consider dignity and independence to be their life.

If the United States and its followers seriously threaten the independence of our republic and national security, we will have no alternative but to take a self-defensive countermeasure.

It is the United States that produced nuclear weapons for the first time in the world and thus started the nuclear arms race; used nuclear weapons for the first time and thus created a nuclear horror; and filled the world nuclear weapons and now are trying to deploy them in space. Nevertheless, the United States does not receive international denunciation.

The international community must in no way allow the one and only superpower to enjoy the privilege of manufacturing atomic and chemical weapons, intercontinental ballistic missiles, and other weapons of mass destruction if it wants; remodel them if it wants to; sell them if it wants to; and deploy them in foreign lands if it wants to. They are the very source of all misfortunes on earth.

The international community has the moral qualities of justice and fairness. Turning a blind eye on the superpower and some IAEA officials, who had an unprecedented and unjust resolution adopted, and arguing about a just measure that a small nonnuclear state was compelled to take to defend its right to existence, is in no way just or fair.

The policy of the government of our republic to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is unchanging.

The government and people of the DPRK will also in the future make every effort to implement their proposals for denuclearizing the Korean peninsula and achieving the arms reduction and to achieve the country's reunification, a firm guarantee for durable peace and security.

DPRK Document Distributed at UNSC

SK2703044193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—A memorandum of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated March 15 which disclosed the truth behind the nuclear inspection of the DPRK by the International Atomic Energy Agency was distributed on March 17 as official document of the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] S/25422.

U.S. Official's Comments Viewed

SK2703123193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 22 Mar 93

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "The Thief Cries, 'Stop Thief!'"]

[Text] At a time when black clouds of war are heavily hovering over the Korean peninsula due to the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise aimed at the North, the U.S. ruling quarters are making not-to-be-overlooked outbursts that concern the people of the world very much.

According to a report, John Murtha, a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives, raved in a recent news conference: If North Korea fails to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], the United States should make limited strikes on North Korea, and prepare itself to take one-sided action against North Korea if necessary.

This is an outburst like a thief crying, "Stop thief!" and causes surging indignation among our people.

As everyone knows, our withdrawal from the NPT is a proper exercise of our independent rights. We joined the NPT to receive such benefits [togul pogiwihan kosiyotchi] as forcing the U.S. nuclear weapons out of South Korea and removing the U.S. nuclear threat, not to face the nuclear threat as we do now. The United States and the South Korean puppets, however, staged the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise against us and at the same time, the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], under U.S. manipulation, is trying to conduct so-called special inspections to open up our military sites [kunsa taesangdul] which have nothing to do with nuclear activities. How can we look on such a high-handed act of encroaching upon our sovereignty with our arms folded?

Our withdrawal from the NPT is a very just self-defensive measure to safeguard the country's supreme interests when the dignity of the nation and the security of the country are gravely threatened. Therefore, the broad circles of the world's peace-loving people warmly support and approve of our self-defensive measure. They raise a voice of strong protest against and denunciation of the United States, the South Korean puppets, and the IAEA.

Nevertheless, they raved about the so-called "limited strikes" and "preparation of a one-sided act" in connection with our just self-defensive measure. This reveals the U.S. imperialists' scheme to ignite a war of northward invasion using the nuclear issue as a pretext. Moreover, we cannot overlook the fact that this outburst of war was made simultaneously with the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which has been conducted provocatively in South Korea.

As everyone knows, the Team Spirit war exercise is a three dimensional exercise staged in the sky, on the ground, and on the seas of South Korea. It mobilizes hundreds and thousands of large-scale troops and modern war equipment that are capable of waging a full-fledged war. This exercise is an extremely dangerous test nuclear war exercise and a preliminary war aimed at waging a surprise strike on the northern half of our Republic.

In particular, the United States staged a command post exercise along with the mobilization and combat drills [silttong hullyon] by mobilizing its so-called high-tech weapons: F-117 Stealth fighter-bombers, Patriot intercept missiles, the B-1B colossal strategic bombers, and the unmanned remote-controlled fighters. This reveals the dangerous and aggressive nature of the war exercise even more.

At this serious moment, when a grave touch-and-go situation has been created by the Team Spirit war exercise, leading us to the crossroads of peace and war, the U.S. ruling quarters made a bellicose outburst. This clearly shows that the U.S. imperialists are attempting to lead the situation on the Korean peninsula to a phase of war.

However, the U.S. imperialists are misjudging the Korean people. They have made a gross miscalculation. Our people are not what they used to be and, moreover, are not the people who will walk into another road abandoning their revolutionary faith submitting to the U.S. imperialists' military threat and blackmail.

All our people have launched themselves into safeguarding and protecting socialism, our lifeline and life. One can easily understand this from the fact, among other things, that some 1.5 million youths and students across the country volunteered to join the People's Army for these 10 days or so.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets should squarely see that they cannot touch even an inch of our land or damage even a plant. They must act with discretion. If they continue following the road of provoking a new war despite our repeated warnings, our people will deal the aggressors an annihilating blow.

U.S. Warned Not To 'Internationalize' Issue

SK2903063293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0557 GMT 29 Mar 93

["U.S. Can Never Evade Responsibility"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 29 (KCNA)—Some countries are these days spreading the absurd opinion that the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] is not a pending issue which should be solved between the DPRK and the United States but an issue which must be solved between the DPRK and the international community. Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says: This is a wrong argument of them who do not know the direct motive of the DPRK's withdrawal from the NPT and the peculiar situation created on the Korean peninsula.

Stating that the main factor that compelled the DPRK to withdraw from the NPT was the U.S. nuclear threat to stifle it, the news analyst goes on:

The United States resumed the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, which it had suspended before we accepted the inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency, when we were undergoing inspection, thus leading nuclear threat against us to an extreme phase. It manipulated the IAEA to depart from the principle of impartiality and instigated it to demand a "special inspection" of our ordinary military sites unrelated to nuclear activities by supplying false information to it. So the United States cannot but be a party responsible for the solution of our "nuclear problem". It is our consistent argument that the party which caused a trouble must seek a solution to it in a responsible manner.

If the United States attempts to evade its responsibility and settle our "nuclear problem" by strong-arm action or internationalize it, this would not be favourable to the U.S.

The progress in its solution depends on whether the DPRK-U.S. negotiation is realized, or not, and whether the United States takes a responsible stand, or not.

If the U.S. approaches the DPRK-U.S. negotiation with sincerity from a responsible stand, a correct solution may be found.

If the United States chooses a showdown of strength with us, not negotiation, they will only taste a bitter cup of defeat.

Daily Blames U.S. for NPT Withdrawal

SK2703114193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 27 Mar 93

["U.S. Nuclear Threat Must Be Removed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today stresses that if the nuclear threat against us is to be removed war exercises against us must be stopped and the U.S. forces and all their nuclear war means be pulled out of South Korea.

The main reason why we had to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] was that the United States was intensifying nuclear threat against us, keeping nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the paper in a by-lined article says, and goes on:

Our accession to the NPT was chiefly aimed to get the U.S. nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea, remove their nuclear threat against us and denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

Nevertheless, U.S. nuclear equipment loaded with nuclear weapons is still now frequenting the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea including the Chinhae port.

When its announcement of the withdrawal of its nuclear weapons from South Korea turned out to be a sheer lie and its reinforcement of nuclear weapons in this region was disclosed, the United States floated rumors about fictitious "nuclear suspicion" against us and used it as a pretext to put pressure on us and justify its nuclear war manoeuvres.

The new U.S. Administration betrayed its belligerent nature by crying for "strong countermeasure" and "economic sanctions" against our self-defensive measure of withdrawal.

The U.S. ruling quarters should not try to put pressure on us, taking issue with our withdrawal from the NPT but take a step at an early date to remove nuclear threat to us.

It is a big miscalculation for the United States to try to frighten our people and bring them to their knees with nuclear threat. Our people consider independence to be their life and soul and socialism to be their faith and life and our people never allow any encroachment on national dignity and interests.

Reports on U.S.-ROK Military Exercises Continue

19-22 Mar Exercise Continuance Noted

SK2803013193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "Unchanged Ambition To Invade the North"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are talking as if the provocative Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise were completed. However, their publicity is false, and this is nothing but brazen sophistry intended to deceive the world and to reduce the strong protest and denunciation by people at home and abroad.

Only the mobilization and combat drills, the basic stage of the Team Spirit war exercise aimed at northward invasion, are over; the actual war exercise is still going on.

According to a military source, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets conducted a dangerous shooting game on 22 March. Their goal was to achieve intensive, all-out combat strike capability against the northern half of the republic. They mobilized 350 planes that participated in the Team Spirit-93 war exercise, including F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons, pursuit-assault planes, the carrier-borne aircrafts that took off from the aircraft carriers and helicopter carriers, and the U.S. Air Force and puppet air force fighter planes in South Korea.

That same day, the rascals brought in aerial refueling planes from their base in Okinawa, Japan, to conduct air refueling exercises for various types of military planes including the fighter-bombers participating in the air war exercise.

Mobilizing a U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane and tactical reconnaissance planes, they conducted air espionage along the frontline area, the coastal line, and the inland area of the northern half of the Republic.

On 19, 20, and 21 March, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged an air nuclear strike exercise, an air joint war exercise, and a low-altitude surprise strike exercise.

On 20 March alone, as many as 700 planes participated in the air war exercise over South Korea. This shows how the rascals are running amok in the war exercise for northward invasion. The facts clearly show that the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise is not over and that the rascals are watching for every chance to invade the North.

As everyone knows, the Team Spirit war exercise is a test nuclear war and a preliminary war aimed at the North based on the U.S. imperialists' strategy for Korea.

Many war exercises have been staged around the world, but none have been of the magnitude of the three dimensional Team Spirit joint military exercise which has been conducted in the sky, in the land, and on the sea, mobilizing thousands of troops and ultramodern war equipment such as B-1B strategic bombers, F-117A Stealth bombers, and nuclear weapons.

The U.S. forces of aggression and war equipment brought from overseas bases are still in South Korea and continue being used in the war exercise of northward invasion. They say that the mobilization and combat drills are over, but the dark cloud of war still hovers and the aggravated tensions remain unalleviated.

The rascals are publicizing the end of the Team Spirit war exercise but are actually continuing the exercise.

How shameless they are! In preparation for a surprise attack in a war of northward invasion, the rascals are using this lie in an attempt to have the people slacken their vigilance. There are quite a few examples of this in the world's war history. Moreover, intolerable is the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, revealing their scheme to stage the Team Spirit joint military exercise again next year, raved that they will continue preparations for it.

The rascals are well aware of the effect the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise has on the situation on the Korean peninsula and on inter-Korean relations. Nonetheless, they are planning to stage this war exercise again next year. This proves that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are indifferent to peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula and are pursuing only a war of northward invasion.

Just as the nature of a wolf cannot be changed, so the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunches' ambition to invade the North remains unchanged.

They should clearly realize that they will never be able to curb our people's revolutionary will and faith with any war maneuvers in which they might engage, and they should act with discretion.

Our people will maintain revolutionary vigilance and will smash the rascals' provocation maneuvers at every step of the way.

'Sources' Report 26 Mar Exercise

SK2803090093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0810 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 28 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets on March 26 staged an air war exercise against the northern half of Korea in the skies above Oeyon islet, Chungju and Yongwol, South Korea with formations of scores of U.S. Pacific-based fighter-bombers and pursuit-assault planes and fighter planes belonging to the U.S. airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, more than 250 all told, according to military sources.

On the same day, some 100 fighter-bombers, assault planes and pursuit planes flying above Kwangju, Umsong and Hoengsong staged exercises of aerial warfare for the command of the air and target bombing under different circumstances and conditions.

An estimated 30 assault planes and helicopter gunships mobilized in an exercise for support of a ground attack operation with Pochon, Kapyong and Chunchon as theatres of operation staged an exercise of strike at ground targets with the support of observation planes.

A total of more than 600 warplanes were mobilized in the war exercises in South Korea on March 26 alone.

Kim Il-song Congratulates PRC's Jiang Zemin

SK2703153093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings today to Comrades Jiang Zemin and Qiao Shi upon their respective election as president of the People's Republic of China and chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress [NPC] of the PRC at the first session of the 8th NPC of the PRC.

The message says:

"I am pleased to hear that Comrade Jiang Zemin was elected president of the People's Republic of China and Comrade Qiao Shi chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC at the first session of the 8th NPC of the PRC, and extend warmest congratulations to you in the name of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people and in my own name.

"Your election to the high, responsible posts of the state this time is a token of the Chinese people's deep trust in and respect for you.

"I sincerely wish you fresh success in your work for accelerating the construction of socialist modernization of the country, increasing the national strength and reunifying the whole country.

"Availing myself of this opportunity, I express the belief that the traditional Korea-China friendship will strengthen and develop steadily in keeping with the aspirations of the peoples of our two countries."

Vice President Begins Visit to India 25 Mar

Arrives in New Delhi

SK2703131393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] DPRK Vice President Yi Chong-ok, who is visiting India as a special envoy of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, arrived in New Delhi on 25 March.

The special envoy was greeted at the airport by [word indistinct] secretary of the Indian External Affairs ministry, the functionaries of relevant sectors, and our country's ambassador to India.

Indian Minister: NPT 'Discriminates'

SK2703113893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—Indian Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh told reporters about the DPRK's announcement of its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], according to a report from New Delhi March 25.

"North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT highlighted the shortcomings of the agreement," he stressed.

"The West says it wants us to sign the NPT," he said, referring to the pressure to sign it as unreasonable.

"The NPT discriminates between the nuclear haves and have-nots," he added.

Delegation Departs for European Tour 25 Mar

SK2703045193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Kim Yong-sun, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, left here Thursday [25 March] on a European tour.

It was seen off at the airport by Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee.

Spokesman: Japan's Dispatch of Forces 'Mockery'

SK2903103893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 29 Mar 93

["DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman Denounces Japan's Decision To Dispatch 'SDF' to Mozambique"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 29 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry said the Japanese Government's decision March 26 to send troops of the "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF] to Mozambique under the cloak of "U.N. Peacekeeping Operation" is a mockery of and challenge to the Korean and other Asian nations and the world's peaceloving people.

Answering a question raised by KCNA [Korean Central News Agency] in this regard on March 29, he said:

"Japan has a history of militarist aggression and plunder in which she had inflicted unbearable misfortunes and calamities upon the Korean and other Asian peoples.

"Japan's scheme to despatch troops of the 'SDF' even to the African continent beyond the Asian continent on the plea of 'international contribution', when she has not yet clearly atoned for her crime-woven past, must never be tolerated, because it is an attempt of 'militarism' to pave the way for world supremacy, taking off the bridle.

"Japan should give up her attempt to become a political power, a military power by such dangerous act as sending 'SDF' troops overseas, and should instead properly atone for the past crimes of militarism and thus win the confidence of the world people.

"If Japan continues to seek her conversion into a military power, oblivious of the historical lesson, it would mean opting the way of self-destruction of her own accord.

Daily Opposes Japan Bid for UNSC Membership

SK2803092193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 28 Mar 93

["Japan Must Liquidate Its Past Before Anything Else"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 28 (KCNA)—Japan must honestly liquidate its crime-woven past before requesting permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council [UNSC], says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

Japan's attempt to become a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council is an expression of the anachronistic mode of thinking, the analyst says, and continues:

Japan is trying to become a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, prompted by its design to be a "leading state of the world" and, furthermore, establish a "world order" favourable for it.

Japan set a goal of taking the seat of a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council till 1995 in which falls the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations, and is scheming to put it into practice.

Japan, however, cannot become a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council as it wants.

Japan has not cast off the dishonour of being a "hostile country" defined by the international community.

Japan has not yet liquidated its past crime of aggression including the problem of the "comfort girls for the army".

Its authorities have not admitted the crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists in the past, but on the contrary, are working hard to justify them with a view to repeating such crimes. Overseas expansion is an invariable ambition of the Japanese monopoly capital. The Japanese militarist forces are leaving no stone unturned to gratify this ambition.

Remarks of the Japanese ruling quarters about "peace," "security" and "international contribution" are no more than a trick to create illusion about Japan among the world people and achieve their dominationist objective.

Such being the case, how can the international community trust Japan?

Many countries of the world are against the move of Japan to seek permanent membership.

Japan must know this clearly and act with discretion.

Ministry Demands Compensation for 'Comfort Women'

SK2703121093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Statement by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on 26 March—read by announcer]

[Text] The Japanese Government and the South Korean authorities have recently made an ominous attempt to politically resolve the comfort women issue, a grave human rights violation by the Japanese imperialists.

According to foreign press reports, the Japanese Government will propose the establishment of a fund for the comfort women, instead of compensating them, and the chief executive of South Korea said that he would not demand material compensation regarding the comfort women issue.

Japan and the South Korean authorities agreed to hold summit talks shortly to seek a final resolution of the comfort women issue and other pending issues.

This is a very insidious act designed by the Japanese Government and the South Korean authorities to avoid at any cost compensation, an important matter in resolving the comfort women issue, which the international community considers to be very serious. It is a conspiracy to hush up the issue.

Our people, the Asian people, and the international community can hardly repress astonishment and anger at the Japanese authorities' unreasonable act.

The crime against the comfort women is the meanest inhuman act previously unknown in human history and in the history of war, and a grave crime of human rights abuse that falls under the crime against humanity in international law. Therefore, it must not be solved by something like a fund, instead of compensation.

The Japanese Government must not attempt to politically resolve the comfort women issue through underhanded dealings with the South Korean authorities, but resolve it by means of a thorough investigation into the crimes, a clear apology, and compensation as a material token of atonement. To this end, it must investigate and make public, first of all, the crimes, including the drafting of the comfort women, at an early date.

New crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists, including the comfort women issue, have been exposed, and it has been made clear that compensation claims of all the victims, including those who were drafted, were totally ignored when the Japan-ROK [ilhan] treaty on basic relations was concluded in 1965. Therefore, the Japanese Government must no longer talk about the treaty's validity.

The Japanese authorities must not foolishly try to cover up Japan's past crimes, and the South Korean authorities must discard their habit of victimizing national dignity and interests in collusion with outside forces.

France-Korea Friendship Bulletin Discusses NPT

SK2703114593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1117 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—The France-Korea Friendship Association published its bulletin on March 17.

The bulletin carried articles titled "Defence of Peace Is Compatible With National Independence and Respect for Sovereignty," "Struggle for Release of Political Prisoners in South Korea Extensively Waged after Release of Yim Su-kyong" and "Study Tour and Tourism in DPRK".

The bulletin noted that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made many proposals for the country's reunification, but the United States and South Korea refused to accept them each time.

"The DPRK joined the Nulear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and accepted inspections as stipulated in the nuclear safeguards agreement," it noted, and added: "The United States, however, refuses inspection of its nuclear bases in South Korea".

It charged that the United States is scheming to stifle the socialist system of Korea under the pretext of nuclear problem.

"It was to defend its sovereignty that the DPRK decided to withdraw from the NPT, rejecting the demand of the United States and the IAEA for a 'special inspection'", it noted.

Reports on Former War Correspondent's Welcome Continue

CPRF Chairman Thanks Assistants

SK2703115393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1113 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF), issued a statement today expressing thanks to the dissident and democratic movement organizations, people and students of South Korea and Overseas Koreans for having taken a warm care of Yi In-mo and helped him with sincerity. Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will and a proud son of the nation, has returned to the DPRK 43 years after he left it.

On behalf of the CPRF, Chon Kum-chol expressed deep thanks to Kim Sang-won and his family who took a warm care of Yi In-mo for a long time as if he were their real father, to the student of Pusan National University and members of dissident orgaizations who guarded and consoled the old man in sickbed, the pro-reunfication patriot including Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and woman student Yim Su-kyong who visited the old man in sickbed and inspired him with confidence and courage and to many other people in South Korea who bore the medical fees for the old man, gave him presents and warmly sent him off to the DPRK.

The vice-chairman of the CPRF also extended warm compatriotic greetings to the Koreans in Germany and all other Overseas Koreans who conveyed to the old man news about is family in the motherland and helped him in every way to return to the DPRK.

"Although Yi In-mo is in a critical condition, having become invalid due to the cruel tortures by the enemy and serious disease the contracted during his imprisonment of 34 years," Chon Kum-chol said, our people will recover his health without all and take care of him with all sincerity in a responsible manner so that he may lead a happy life with his family for the rest of his life."

People Throughout DPRK Send Gifts

SK2703114293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1058 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—People in all parts of the country continue sending gifts to Comrade Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, who has returned to the socialist motherland on March 19.

Labour hero Pak Ok-chun, director of the Tongdaewon Garment Factory in Pyongyang, who hailed from South Korea, has prepared a quality suit of colour suitable for the old, a white shirt and underwear.

Sin Chae-chon, director of a section of the hospital of Pyongyang University of Medicines, who is living a happy life after returning from Japan, brought a high-class blanket and Koryo steamed-and-dried ginseng (Insam) and nine members of families of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters including Kim Song-hwa residing in Pyongyang made with sincerity a suit of Korean padded coat and trousers, a jacket, a cushion, etc.

Kim Myong-hui, instructor of the children's union at the Changsong Primary School in North Pyongan Province, and a schoolgirl Chon Yong-mi came with wild ginseng, honey and other presents, and ten poems.

Many officials of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Public Security, the State Commission of Light Industry and the General Bureau of Land Transport have sent wild ginseng, cultivated ginseng, antlers of the deer, carps and other things which are efficacious for the recovery of health.

Yi In-mo Thanks Kim Il-song

SK2703111093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army who returned to the socialist homeland on March 19, in his sick bed, expressed warm thanks and unbounded reverence for the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He is now receiving medical treatment amid special love and concern of the people across the country. He told his family who came to see him and doctors:

"I seem to be regaining my senses a little as the doctors and nurses treat me and look after me with utmost care as if I were their own flesh and blood.

"When I was in the South, the great general Kim Il-song was my mental mainstay and the source of will with which I could bear the brutal tortures by the enemy.

"In these few days I have felt more keenly that one can enjoy an eternal life only when one follows the great general, trusting him like a heaven.

"I can hardly find words to express my thanks to the dear leader who is so warmly looking after me, an old and ailing man, so that I can regain my spiritual and physical life.

"I was reborn because the great general and the dear leader took a measure to bring me home.

"Embraced in the bosom of the great general, I remember with earnest longing my comrades-in-arms who fought with me and were murdered after undergoing sufferings, subjected to all manner of tortures, in prison in the South, rather than my relatives in the North."

Kim Chong-il Thanks Soldiers, Party for Support

SK2803092793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0840 GMT 28 Mar 93

["Korean People Determined To More Firmly Safeguard Socialist Motherland"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 28 (KCNA)—People of all strata in the northern half of Korea, upon receiving the message of thanks addressed by respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il to the soldiers, all the party members and other working people who displayed intense loyalty in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of revolution, renewed their determination to defend the motherland like an impregnable fortress and effect a great upsurge in socialist construction in the same spirit as had been displayed in the state of semi-war.

Han Yong-nam, chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee, said "the message of thanks sent by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a token of his deep trust in and love of our People's Army officers and men and people who are boundlessly faithful to the call of the party and a striking demonstration of the might of our revolutionary ranks in which the leader, the party and the masses are united rockfirm in one mind."

"We will keep ourselves in a strained posture, not slackening the spirit and mettle displayed in the period of semi-war, and greet the 40th anniversary of our victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with a high degree of political enthusiasm and brilliant achievements in labour, thus further exalting the socialism of our own style," he said.

Han Chang-kon, vice-chairman of the Power Industry Commission, said the officials of the commission, deeply cherishing their honour and responsibility of taking charge of a leading branch of the national economy, would organize and command a vigorous drive for increased production of electric power in the same spirit and mettle which had been displayed in the period of semi-war so as to fully meet the daily increasing need of different sectors of the national economy for electricity and thereby make an active contribution to bringing about a great upsurge in the socialist economic construction.

Mun Kyong-tok, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, stressed that the young people would create a new norm and a new record and fully display mass heroism at all posts of socialist construction, not slackening even a little the traits and spirit displayed in the state of semi-war, and thus they would all become young heroes in the worthwhile struggle to add brilliance to the age of the Workers' Party.

A general of the Korean People's Army, Yom Chol-song, said all the soldiers of his unit would maintain the mettle and spirit displayed in the semi-war state and annihilate the enemy at a stroke if he pounced upon them any time.

"This is the unanimous pledge and iron will of our People's Army soldiers who received the message of thanks from the respected comrade supreme commander," he stressed.

Another general of the Korean People's Army, Yi Yong-sang, said:

"All the officers and men of our army unit will keenly watch every move of the U.S. imperialists and all other enemies who are hatching up a more dangerous plot, not renouncing their design to destroy our Republic and socialist system, and increase the fighting power of our unit in every way so as to crush and wipe out the enemies at one stroke, no matter when, where and how they may fall upon us."

Kim Il-song Guides Agriculture in Various Provinces

SK2903070593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0507 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 29 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song guided agriculture in different provinces.

He was accompanied by Kang Song-san, Choe Yong-nim, Kim Tal-hyon, Hong Song-nam, So Kwan-hui, Kim Hwan, Kim Yun-hyok, chairman of the State Agricultural Commission Kim Won-chin, chief secretaries of provincial, city and county party committees, chairmen of the provincial rural economy committees and city and county cooperative farm management committees, chairmen of the management boards of cooperative farms, ri [administrative unit] party secretaries, officials in the domain of agricultural science research and officials of relevant domains.

President Kim Il-song convened consultative meetings of agricultural officials and officials of relevant domains of different districts, acquainted himself in detail with the agricultural production in all provinces, plain areas, intermediary and mountainous areas and hilly areas in recent years and advanced highly important tasks to continue to implement the party's agriculture-first policy to the letter and bring about a new upswing in agricultural production.

He noted with great satisfaction that the agricultural scientists and technicians and workers in North Hamgyong Province had laid a firm foundation for a new turn in agricultural production under the guidance of the provincial party committee and extended thanks to the North Hamgyong provincial party committee, administrative and economic committee and rural economy committee.

He also extended thanks to the entire agricultural workers in South Hamgyong Province who harvested large quantities of grain last year by doing farming well as required by the chuche method of farming with intense loyalty to the party and the leader despite the unfavorable natural and climatic conditions.

He set the goals of agricultural production for every province and indicated in detail the orientation and ways of attaining them, saying that only when farming is done well is it possible to bring into full play the advantages of our anthropocentric socialism.

To raise the per-hectare yield is an important way of increasing the grain output in Korea where there are many mountains and the arable land is limited, he said, adding that a radical change must be effected in grain output by fully meeting as ever the requirements of the chuche method of farming the advantages of which have already been proved in practice.

In order to do farming well, it is important to provide well three conditions—seed, fertilizers and water, he noted, stressing that all the cooperative farms of the nation must sow high-yield seeds suited to their topographical features and climate, produce larger quantities of Hukposan fertilizer, magnetized slag and other organic mineral fertilizers as well as chemical fertilizers, sufficiently apply varieties of necessary fertilizers, adjust and reinforce the irrigation system and facilities and amply water all paddy and non-paddy fields.

He said that, while boosting grain output, stock-breeding, pomiculture, sericulture and other sectors of agriculture should be developed manysidedly in conformity with natural and geographical conditions.

He instructed that the capacities of stock-breeding bases including chicken and duck plants and pig farms in different parts of the country should be increased to the maximum and, at the same time, all cooperative farms and farm-households should extensively breed domestic animals to provide larger quantities of meat and eggs to the people and soldiers.

Noting that Korea has many big famous fruit farms including Kwail county, he said that fruit production should be increased by improving the composition of varieties of fruit trees and their distribution and the application of fertilizers and management of fruit trees in keeping with the climatic and soil conditions and scientific and technical requirements so as to supply larger quantities of fresh fruits of various kinds to the people all the year round.

Besides rice and maize, oil-bearing plants and plants for industrial use that grow well in northern areas should be extensively grown and the output of cocoons raised by enlarging the areas of mulberry trees and tending them well, he said.

During the consultative meetings, President Kim Il-song went round to see newly-made farm machines and set forth tasks to complete the comprehensive mechanisation of agriculture.

He acquainted himself in detail with structures, functions and mechanism of farm machines including the machine of granulating organic mineral fertilizer, the machine of making ridges between rice fields and manuring machine and said it was very good to have manufactured highly-efficient farm machines suitable to the topographical conditions of Korea and helpful toward agricultural production.

Pointing out that mechanization of agriculture is the most important way of freeing peasants from toilsome and hard work and increasing agricultural production, he instructed that many more tractors and lorries be sent to the rural community and all farm work from rice-transplanting to harvesting done by machines so as to carry out ahead of schedule the task for comprehensive mechanisation of agriculture which was set forth in the theses on the socialist rural question.

Whether the important and vast tasks facing agriculture will be fulfilled successfully or not largely depends upon how the leading officials work, he said, and stressed: All the leading officials of the party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs and rural economy must work and live in a militant way with a strained and mobilized posture in the spirit and stamina that were displayed during the semi-war period and give full scope to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle.

'Many Units' Fulfill Assignments Ahead of Schedule

SK2703151493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—Many units in various fields of the national economy of Korea have fulfilled their assignments for the first quarter of the year ahead of schedule.

First quarterly targets have been topped by far by the Sangwon Cement Complex, the Wiwon Power Station, the October 5 General Automation Device Factory, North Hamgyong Provincial Forestry Administration and other units of basic industry which had waged a vigorous drive for increased production from the beginning of the year.

Miners of the Taehung Youth Mining Complex, the Pungnyon mine and the Songsan mine under the ministry of mining industry carried out their plans for the first quarter 10 to 20 days ahead of time.

The Songsan mine had overfulfilled its quarterly plan by 16.5 percent by March 15.

Over 20 industrial establishments in Kaesong such as the Kaesong knitwear mill and the Kaesong ginseng (insam) processing factory and hundreds of factories and enterprises across the country fulfilled their quarterly plans ahead of schedule.

People Increase Land, Marine Freight Turnover

SK2703014993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—Working people in land and marine transport of Korea are increasing freight turnover to honor the 40th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War (July 27).

Auto drivers under the General Bureau of Land Transport are carrying 2,200 more tons of freight than the daily quota these days.

The South Hwanghae provincial, Nampo Municipal and North Phyongan Provincial Transport Administrations raised the operation rate of motors 12 percent above the same time of last month, thus topping their freight turnover targets respectively 30, 18 and 13 percent in recent ten days.

The General Bureau of Marine Transport carried 13,000 more tons of freight than the plan in the same period.

Nampo and Haeju and other ports had carried out the cargo traffic plan for March at 102 percent on the 23rd by shortening the loading and unloading time.

People Seek Economic Construction Upsurge

SK2903015493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Text] In hearty response to the order on lifting the semi-war state to the whole country, all the people, and the entire army, which was issued by Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], the working class and trade union members across the country are consolidating their burning resolve to bring about a new upsurge in socialist economic construction with the high spirits of a victor.

Central radio reporter Yi Hak-sil met with Kim Kuksam, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK], and Kang Yong-ok, deputy director of a department of the GFTUK Central Committee:

[Yi Hak-sil] In hearty response to the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's order on lifting the semi-war state, the working class and trade union members across the country are full of a victor's pride and confidence.

[Kim Kuk-sam] Right. In hearty response to the KPA supreme commander's order on lifting the semi-war state to the whole country, all the people, and the entire army, our working class and trade union members are full of the pride and confidence of sternly defeating the enemies' new war provocation maneuvers with the chuche-oriented might.

Even though the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities recklessly ran amuck, our People's Army and the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards more firmly rallied around Comrade Kim Chong-il, KPA supreme commander. They did not allow the enemies to touch an inch of the lands and a blade of grass in the Republic.

Our people have vigorously fought by upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the KPA supreme commander. As a result, our people once again vigorously demonstrated to the world that our country is not only a powerful, chuche-oriented, socialist country with political and military might but also a country based on firm independence that none dares provoke.

[Kang Yong-ok] Right. Because we uphold comrade KPA supreme commander's order, we are filled with the great national pride and confidence of being the citizens of the Republic.

KPA Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's order on entering the semi-war state was the most just and patriotic measure. Thus, in hearty response to the order of Comrade Kim Chong-il, KPA supreme commander, all working class and trade union members keenly watched the enemies' war maneuvers, while holding sickles and hammers in the one hand and guns in the other. By so doing, they brought about a great upsurge in socialist economic construction.

During the period of carrying out the respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's order, the working class and trade union members across the country had absolute loyalty to the iron-willed commander general Kim Chong-il, turned their working sites into impregnable fortresses, effected a great success by faithfully upholding his leadership.

The pride and honor of our working class, who uphold the dear leader comrade as the supreme commander of our Revolutionary Armed Forces, are endless.

[Kim Kuk-sam] Right. The United States and the South Korean authorities should clearly know that, it is a great miscalculation for them to think that they can frustrate our socialist system and subdue our people through the so-called policy of strength. We once again warn them to know this in the name of our working class and trade union members.

Our people will mark the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War this year. Our GFTUK functionaries should vigorously conduct organizational and political work to mark the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with high political enthusiasm and brilliant labor success. We should lead all working class and trade union members to live and work with a tensed and mobilized attitude.

As in the past, all our working class and trade union members should clearly know that only victory and glory are in store for our people who are dynamically advancing along the road of socialism under the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership. We should constantly bring about a new upsurge in the socialist economic construction sites.

KCNA Reviews 29 Mar NODONG SINMUN

SK2903091893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0608 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today devotes more than a half of its front page to the report that the great leader President Kim Il-song guided the work in the agricultural domain.

The paper reports that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a gift from Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma and his special envoy was received by the Indian president.

The paper reports that President Kim Il-song received messages from the Senegalese president and the Mauritian prime minister in reply to his messages of greetings to them.

The paper informs the readers that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a congratulatory message to the members of the children's union who participated in the excursion march of "one thousand-ri journey for learning".

Conveyed in the paper is news that Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in a seminar of Indian journalists to establish independence in the mass communication activities held in New Delhi.

An article of the paper notes that Comrade Kim Chong-il has always guided our working class, inspiring it with unshakable conviction and optimistic view that they will surely win in all spheres of the revolution and construction.

Printed in the paper is a letter to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] from the Political Council of the Central Executive Committee of the party of communists of Russia in support of the statement of the DPRK Government on its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT].

The paper deals with achievements in various domains of the national economy.

"Reactionary Nature of Sophism Abusing Socialism as 'Totalitarian'" is the headline of an article of the paper.

The paper informs the readers that the Guyanese president met with the Korean ambassador to his country and the Indian paper SAMACHAR POST introduced Kimilsungia.

Under the bannerline "We Will Not Pardon the Enemies Infringing Upon the Dignity and Sovereignty of the Nation", the paper carries statements of the spokesmen of the Central Committee of the Korean Buddhists Federation and the Central Committee of the Korean Catholics Association supporting the statement of the DPRK Government on its withdrawal from the NPT and reaction of foreign political, public and press circles to it.

The paper conveys voices of Overseas Koreans resolving to live a brilliant life like Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will.

An article of the paper exposes the irregularities and corruption of the South Korean puppet army bosses.

The paper informs the readers that the chairman of the For Peace and Socialism-the Communist Workers' Party of Finland praised the exploits of the WPK.

In a commentary the paper states that the United States is the very one that compelled the DPRK to withdraw from the NPT.

The paper reports that foreign heads of state and government expressed support to the Reunification of Korea, the first session of the 8th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference closed, Yasir 'Arafat affirmed his resolution to fight it out for the building of an independent state, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran condemned the Western slanderous propaganda and the Nicaragua-Cuba Solidarity Committee demanded the United States to withdraw the sanctions against Cuba.

The paper deals with the Afghan situation which is heading for relaxation.

Reviews 27 Mar Pyongyang Press

SK2703060793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says that foreign media reported the great leader President Kim Il-song's letter "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party".

Papers dedicate articles to the 60th anniversary of the publication of President Kim Il-song's classical work "On the Tasks for Improving the Work of the Young Communist League".

Printed in NODONG SINMUN is a letter to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from the participants in a national seminar on the chuche idea and independence of France which was held in Paris on his birthday.

Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to young people who were married to disabled soldiers, reports the daily.

The paper informs the readers that foreign media reported the communique of the Korean People's Army supreme command on lifting the semi-war state.

According to the paper, Comrade Kim Chong-il received solidarity letters from different countries denouncing the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises of the U.S. and the South Korean authorities and the "special inspection" scheme.

"I Will Follow Comrade Kim Chong-il", a poem by the chairman of the Serbian writers' union of Yugoslavia, is published in the paper.

The press editorially calls for pushing ahead with socialist construction in the same spirit and mettle as displayed in the semi-war period in hearty response to the order of respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The press informs the readers that the incarnation of faith and will comrade Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, who has been embraced in the socialist homeland, expressed thanks and unbounded reverence for the great leader and the dear leader in his sickbed and the people across the country continue sending gifts to him.

Figuring large in the press is what working people said after receiving the message of thanks sent by Comrade Kim Chong-il to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and the entire party members and other working people who had displayed a high degree of loyalty and devotion in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of the 2nd plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea which discussed tasks for firmly preparing young men and women to be vanguards unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader.

Appearing in the press is a statement of a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry denouncing the Japanese Government for making sinister attempts to evade the compensation for the issue of the "comfort girls for the army" in conspiracy with the South Korean authorities.

Mauritian president met with the DPRK ambassador, according to NODONG SINMUN.

An article of MINJU CHOSON deals with the anti-war, anti-nuke and peace movement of South Korean people which is gaining in scope.

The paper draws the attention of the readers to the unending provocative war exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets against the North.

Remaining in the limelight of the press are world public voices supporting the statement of the DPRK Government declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that Koreans' organisations in Russia sent a letter to the U.S. President urging the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula, the Japan-Korea friendship data center was inaugurated and a seminar on the right to national education was held in Tokyo.

The paper reports that the plenary meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Russian Federation was held and the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY accused the United States of interfering in other's internal affairs on the pretext of "human rights" issue.

Given in the paper are reports that the Syrian president declared Syria would not sign a separate peace pact with Israel, the Jordanian king stressed that one standard must be applied in dealing with international issues and the Kenyan president denounced the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

"U.S. Nuclear Threat Must Be Removed" is the title of an article of the paper.

South Korea

'Western Source': Kim Il-song Visited PRC in Feb

SK2603233493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2215 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] A Western source in Beijing said that North Korean President Kim Il-song visited Beijing last month and held secret talks with China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping. This source also said that President Kim Il-song and Deng Xiaoping discussed the North Korean nuclear issue, how North Korea and China would deal with the ROK-U.S. Team Spirit joint military exercise, and how to expand economic cooperation between North Korea and China.

This source also said: Rumors have abounded in the Chinese Government that Kim Il-song held secret talks with Deng Xiaoping. Rumors are that Deng agreed that China would assume a position favorable to North Korea with regard to the nuclear issue and would play a positive role as mediator by contacting the United States and other countries. In return, China obtained enormous concessions from North Korea on the Tumen River development.

PRC Foreign Ministry Denial

SK2803040893 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] A PRC Foreign Ministry source denied the ROK media's report that North Korean President Kim Il-song visited the PRC in February and held secret talks with the PRC's supreme leader, Deng Xiaoping. A spokesman for the PRC Foreign Ministry said that the ROK report that Kim Il-song and Deng Xiaoping met secretly and held discussions on joint measures regarding the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear inspection, is not true.

DPRK Reportedly Opens Najin Port for PRC

SK2903021793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Beijing, March 29 (YONHAP)—North Korea recently gave China full use of the facilities of Najin port in North Hamkyong Province, knowledgeable Western sources said Monday [29 March]. They said North Korea had virtually banned foreign countries from participating in development of the Najin-Sonbong area under a United Nations Development Program in the name of "territorial sovereignty" and "our-own-method development," so now the development program was expected to gain momentum.

Pyongyang might have granted China the concession for being an active intermediary in the controversy on its nuclear problem, including Pyongyang's decision to leave the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty (NPT), they said. The communist neighbors signed a treaty in Tianjin on March 19 on bilateral cooperation in developing the Tumen River basin that allowed China use of all the facilities at Najin, according to the sources. North Korea showed an unprecedented attitude toward the treaty, proposing to China that it use the port facilities.

The two sides agreed to make concerted efforts to help realize the development program, to jointly develop and use ports, roads and railroads within the Tumen River area and to conduct surveys for expanding communications networks. They also agreed to conduct a feasibility study on building and expanding expressways and railroads linking Chinese cities such as Hunchun to Najin and Sonbong. Specialists of the two sides are expected to hold related meetings in Beijing or Pyongyang in may to discuss the matter, the sources said.

Earlier, China signed an agreement with Russia on border passage, usage of ports, and construction of railroads and highways, and began construction of a rail link between Hunchun and the Russian city of Posjet.

Opening of the port is expected to give China enormous economic benefit by solving its serious difficulties in the transportation of grain, the western sources told YONHAP.

Japan To 'Be Discreet' in Economic Sanctions

SK2903051693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 29 (YONHAP)—Japan would be discreet in deciding on economic sanctions against North Korea even though it is poised to maintain cooperation with South Korea and the United States when the the sanctions are taken up for discussion at the United Nations Security Council, the TOKYO SHIMBUN reported Monday.

Japan has made up its mind to be careful in deciding anti-Pyongyang economic sanctions in consideration for the position of China which has been discreet in handling the issue of North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the report said. It added that such Japanese position was likely to affect other countries in the U.N. Security Council.

"Without China's participation, sanctions would be meaningless," a Japanese Foreign Ministry source was quoted as saying. South Korea and the United States had agreed in principle to impose economic sanctions on North Korea if the Stalinist country didn't reverse its decision to withdraw from the NPT, the TOKYO said.

Consultations on UN DPRK Resolution in Progress

SK2903022993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0208 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea is consulting with the United States, Japan and other core members of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to adopt a resolution to refer the North Korean issue to the United Nations Security Council [UNSC].

The Seoul government hopes to bring the North Korean nuclear question to the U.N. Security Council, even if China, North Korea's last remaining major ally, opposes the move, at an IAEA special Board of Governors' meeting to be convened Wednesday.

A ranking South Korean Government official said Monday that the IAEA had a right and responsibility to report to the U.N. Security Council on the North Korean issue because Pyongyang's refusal to accept IAEA special inspections clearly violated the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty [NPT].

The government would work to pass a resolution referring the North Korean nuclear issue to the world body if North Korea did not accept IAEA special inspections by Wednesday, the official said, requesting anonymity. The official noted that China was maintaining the position that the North Korean nuclear problem should be solved at the IAEA.

The government hoped to see the IAEA Board of Governors adopt the resolution unanimously, but if China opposed it to the end it would help pass a resolution with a vote, if necessary, he said.

Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who held talks in Washington last week, shared the opinion that it would be unavoidable for them to refer the North Korean issue to the Security Council if the IAEA was unable to resolve the North Korean question.

The South Korean official said the government would try to persuade North Korea not to leave the NPT. North Korea's announced decision to leave the treaty takes effect June 12. But for a more effective and quicker resolution of the question, discussions at the Security Council were unavoidable, the official said. It was difficult to accommodate China's demand if it simply continued to urge dialogue with North Korea without offering any alternative for a solution of the problem, he said.

'Face-Saving Chances' Sought for DPRK

SK2803015293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0137 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 27 [date as received] (YONHAP)—South Korea will give time and face-saving chances to North Korea while sanction warnings escalate against it for last-minute compromise with Pyongyang, Foreign Minster Han Sung-chu said Saturday. Han, speaking with reporters, said Seoul will have to give breathing space to North Korea as Pyongyang's nuclear problem passes on from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to the U.N. Security Council [UNSC]. "Economic sanction is the last step," said Han. "We should give time, save North Korea's face, allow breathing space in between."

Han and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher agreed Friday that economic sanctions would strike North Korea hard, that they would serve as a means to force Pyongyang to accept international nuclear inspection and give up attempts to develop nuclear weapons. North Korea said on March 12 it was leaving the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). The withdrawal becomes final three months later. "North Korea may change its mind around June 12 when it faces strong sanction measures. It will realize that as the tone of the sanctions escalates, it will be more difficult to compromise and save its face at the same time," said Han. "When this time comes, it is possible to make give-and-take arrangement," the foreign minister said.

He and Secretary of Defense Les Aspin discussed both sticks and carrots for North Korea during their meeting Friday, Han said with an indication that South Korea-U.S. joint military drill Team Spirit can be one of the carrots.

"The fact that Team Spirit and resolution of North Korea's nuclear suspicion is linked has been clear from last year," the foreign minister said in an answer to a question whether these two elements can be bartered.

South-North Korean dialogue will reopen only when Seoul is convinced such dialogue will help solve the nuclear deadlock. Seoul will decide on the timing of the dialogue after watching the progress of discussion at the UNSC, and the dialogue can be between Seoul and Pyongyang or between Pyongyang and Washington, Han said. "I also do no rule out communication through a third country and international organizations," he said.

On China's role in solving the current crisis, Han said Beijing's leverage on Pyongyang will actually increase when the matter goes to the UNSC. China's power of influence will grow as the matter approaches a vote at the Security Council, and Seoul believes Beijing will use this influence on Pyongyang at that time," he said. hl

ROK, U.S. Warn North Faces Economic Sanctions

SK2703012793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0028 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 27 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States warned North Korea on Friday that it faces economic sanctions, saying that the sanctions will be effective and that China is expected to comply.

"South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher have agreed that North Korea's nuclear problem will inevitably be raised at the U.N. Security Council if it cannot be solved at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," Sin Ki-pok, assistant foreign minister, said after a 45-minute meeting between Han and Christopher. "They have agreed that economic sanctions will be effective on North Korea," Sin said.

This is the first time that South Korea has said that it will go along with sanctions against North Korea, reversing its stance of preferring diplomatic negotiations to solve the crisis.

"Sanctions exclude military action," Sin told a news conference. "But sanctions are unavoidable when diplomatic efforts are not enough." North Korea stunned the world by announcing March 12 it was leaving the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has refused international inspection of its nuclear program and facilities.

Christopher had already said Thursday that he believed economic sanctions, contrary to general belief, would still be detrimental to isolated North Korea. But such sanctions would need China's cooperation to take full effect as Beijing supplies North Korea with more than 60 percent of its fuel.

"We expect China to follow the path of reason and to assume a constructive role in influencing North Korea," the assistant foreign minister said."China makes clear its support for a nuclear-free Korean peninsula. We believe Beijing will not turn its back on the international consensus," Sin said, indicating that Seoul and Washington are assured of China's participation in sanctions. Foreign Minister Han visited the United Nations before coming to Washington, meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and key members of the U.N. Security Council.

Seoul's position so far has been to focus on diplomatic persuasion, advising against any stringent, hasty acts that may destabilize peace and security on the Korean peninsula. There were even reports that Seoul and Washington had differences on handling the North Korean nuclear problem, with South Korea advising caution while the United States urged stronger measures.

Sin's remarks following the Han-Christopher talks indicate that Seoul no longer believes diplomatic efforts will work, that any Security Council action will certainly mean economic sanctions. "We will not lessen our diplomatic efforts, but we predict that the matter will go to the Security Council. Foreign Minister Han and State Secretary Christopher discussed what sanctions are possible," Sin said. Seoul officials said inter-Korean attempts to solve the problem were no longer appropriate, and internationally coordinated action was the priority.

The United States is not planning any high-level contacts with North Korea, judging that such consultations are not appropriate in the current circumstances. There was no specific plan for when the next counselor-level contact between Pyongyang and Washington would take place in Beijing, Sin said. Han invited U.S. President Bill Clinton to visit Seoul for a summit when he goes to Tokyo for the Group-7 meeting in July, but Seoul officials do not rule out the possibility that Clinton may come earlier if the G-7 summit date is pushed up.

YONHAP Views 'Complete Turnabout' on Sanctions

SK2703075693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0538 GMT 27 Mar 93

["News Analysis" by Yi Tong-min: "Seoul, Washington Warn Pyongyang of Possible Sanctions Over Nuke"]

[Text] Washington, March 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Washington sent out a strongest threat yet to North Korea Friday, promising detrimental economic sanctions as soon as they are necessary. The threat was issued at the press conference by the Seoul side following a meeting between South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher here in Washington.

It was a complete turnabout from South Korea's position before Han's arrival in Washington Thursday that all diplomatic efforts through international fora and inter-Korean dialogue have to be exhausted before it will consider sanctions.

Han and other South Korean officials said they hope to contain the North Korean nuclear problem before it reaches this point, with the foreign minister telling South Korean correspondents in New York that he was optimistic the matter will disentangle before it reaches the U.N. Security Council.

Assistant Foreign Minister Sin Ki-pok who sat in the 45-minute Han-Christopher meeting said the two countries agreed that sanctions, although North Korea is already isolated enough to sustain itself without outside aide, will be effective.

Sin's remarks fall no short than an outright announcement that the two countries are ready to mobilize the international community to coordinate an economic sanction [sentence as received]. Christopher already said earlier that Washington believes such sanctions will deal a blow to North Korea, that the sanctions will block inflow of raw materials such as oil and even food.

As to why Seoul announced its change of position at this point, predominant analysis is that a stronger message was necessary to keep Pyongyang on its toes and get it to hurry to the negotiation table. The threat carries heavy weight precisely because it was issued right after the South Korea-U.S. meeting.

The threat is also best timed, coming just before the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s March 31 deadline for North Korea to either open up its two key suspected nuclear facilities to agency special inspection or face measures by the U.N. Security Council.

There were reports, confirmed by South Korean officials, that there were differences in how the Seoul and Washington assessed appropriate countermeasures. Seoul wanted diplomatic solution while Washington urged actual motion. It is possible that the United States advised against Seoul's "soft" position during the Han-Christopher talks and pushed for the threat of economic sanctions.

Han, while at the United Nations before coming to Washington, asked Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to intervene as the U.N. leader and take necessary actions, such as a resolution under his name or by the Security Council, urging North Korea to accept international nuclear inspection.

Friday's announcement by assistant Foreign Minister Sin shows the situation has surpassed this level of countermeasures. "We assume that the matter will go to the Security Council," Sin said, "Han and Christopher discussed what sanctions are possible." In other words, the focus now is not on how to negotiate with North Korea but on much advanced stage of tapping on pressuring actions.

While South Korea will still simultaneously attempt bilateral negotiations with North Korea, Sin said, Seoul's stance at this juncture is that multilateral actions are more potent and thus require greater emphasis. The sanction threats, nevertheless, will stay as a warning rather than follow up with action for a while.

The carefully-timed announcement of such a threat appropriately intensifies the pressure on North Korea before the Security Council is about to get involved, an upgraded strategy to tighten the noose just a litttle more. It was the highest level of warning possible at this point with time still left for North Korea to back down.

Many procedural necessities still remain before the warning gets translated into action. Even after the Security Council takes up the North Korean nuclear agenda, all five permanent members must agree on the resolution for sanctions.

China's participation is crucial, but questions linger on whether Beijing will come about against Pyongyang. Seoul has been mobilizing all dialogue channel with Beijing to convince it to at least abstain if the matter comes to a vote. Sin said China will wait out to see how the situation develops before making a final decision, but added with optimism that Beijing is not likely to go solo against international consensus.

Warnings against North Korea has been building up during Han's U.S. visit. His contacts with key members, both permanent and non-permanent, of the Security Council showed how seriously they see North Korea's nuclear program. Han said, as if in prelude to Friday's meeting results, that the council will take action before April 10. Friday's warning capped the built-up momentum with the United States, one of the countries best situated to offer carrots to North Korea, pronouncing it will only offer whipping sticks.

Foreign Minister, Kantor Discuss Copyright Violations

SK2703032093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 26 [date as received] (YONHAP)—The United States complained hard about South Korea's violations of intellectual property rights Friday as the deadline neared for deciding whether to name South Korea a priority foreign country (PFC). U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor told visiting South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu that Washington took high note of current efforts by Seoul to root out piracy, Korean officials said after the 30-minute meeting. He asked for continued efforts, for more progress in guarantees against violations and said that Washington cannot yet say whether Korea will be on the PFC list in the April 30 announcement.

Han gave an extensive explanation of Seoul's long-term measures to protect patents, but warned that bilateral relations would suffer if Washington named Seoul in the PFC. Han also registered concern at revival of the Super 301 Trade Act, which allows unilateral measures against trade partners like South Korea, the officials said.

The foreign minister asked Kantor to take note of the balanced trade between the two countries, with Seoul actually running a deficit. His concern included regional economic blocs, getting Kantor to promise that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will not limit free world trade, said the officials.

The two sides agreed on keeping regular trade dialogue channels like the President's Economic Initiative (PEI) under George Bush's administration. Kantor was quoted as saying that such overall dialogue would mutually help solve large-scale trade issues. But the officials said the PEI, which dissolves in September, will be reestablished under a new name.

Spokesman Stresses Rice Liberalization Opposition

SK2703084393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0758 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—Han Ho-son, president of the Korea Agricultural Cooperative Federation [KACF], sent a letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy Saturday asking them to actively cooperate [with] South Korea in the Uruguayan multilateral farm produce negotiations. Han underscored in the letter that rice is a staple for Korean farmers and therefore the entire Korean people are opposed to pressures on the liberalization of the rice market.

Pointing out that such a firm national resolve against the liberalization was well evidenced in 1991 when an estimated 13 million people participated in a nationwide signature campaign against the move, Han asked Washington to help the Korean position to be reflected in the negotiations taking into account what the Korean farmers are now faced with. Han also added a resolution adopted during a recent congress of KCAF's national deputires to the letter.

Lawmaker Buys U.S. Advertisement

SK2703031293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 27 (YONHAP)—Yim Chun-won, a ruling party lawmaker who has become a target of public outrage following the disclosure of his wealth, ran an advertisment in the Friday edition of THE WASHINGTON POST, expressing his opinion that South Korea will open its market for foreign rice gradually. In a three-column advertisement, Yim said South Korea will open its rice and financial markets in stages, but foreigners should understand the situation.

If South Korea opened its rice market to imports, millions of Korean farmers would lose their livelihood, Yim said. The country, therefore, needs time to provide alternative employment for them. Yim, who visited Washington recently, also touched on the North Korean nuclear issue in the advertisement, urging the United States to keep South Korea abreast of its consultations with other countries on the issue.

Many Korean residents in the U.S. capital say they wonder in what capacity Yim was talking about the liberalization of South Korea's rice market. Anyway, he must be rich, they add, since he took out such a big advertisment space at a huge cost. Yim is one of more than dozen lawmakers of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] who came under public criticism after the disclosure of their personal assets, some of which were believed to have been amassed through dubious if not illegal means.

ROK, Russia Agree on Fisheries Research Exchange

SK2603123993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1220 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pusan, March 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Russia have recently agreed on a set of joint fishery research schemes and the exchange of information on fisheries. A source at the National Fisheries Research and Development Agency said on Friday that the agreement was reached at a Korea-Russia meeting on fishery Science and Technology cooperation held at the agency at Kijang, Yangsan-kun on March 22-25.

The joint projects agreed on included a survey of cuttlefish resources in the waters of the two countries, a joint study of the pollack resources in the Okhotsk sea, joint development of trawl fishing kits and the mutual exchange of materials on marine studies. The two countries also agreed to exchange one each fishery scientist in June and October this year to hold joint studies on the development of expertise on the processing fishery goods like krill, the source said.

Russia To Attend Energy Cooperation Meeting

SK2703033093 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Mar 93 p 8

[Text] Korea and Russia agreed yesterday to hold later this year the first meeting of the Korean-Russian Energy Resources Cooperation Committee as part of their joint efforts to promote collaboration in the development of natural resources between the two countries.

Korean chief delegate, Pak Yong-han, chief of the Energy Development Bureau at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE), inked a memorandum of understanding on the agreement with his Russian counterpart G.V. Vasiliev at the end of the two-day preparatory talks on the forming of the committee March 25-26 at the ministry.

The two sides agreed to hold the inaugural session of the committee late this year, said a Korean delegate, adding that the venue of the meeting would be decided later through diplomatic channels. The Russian delegation proposed to hold the talks in Russia, he said.

The MOTIE official said the Russian delegation handed over to Korea details of six projects, all concerning development of petroleum gas and coal. They are part of 22 projects Russian President Boris Yeltsin proposed to undertake jointly with Korea during his summit talk with Korean President No Tae-u last year. Korea will consider sending a government-civilian team to make a feasibility study into the proposed projects after examining the document, the Korean delegate said.

Companies Consider PRC Refinery Construction

SK2903042493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—Two South Korean companies are considering plans to build oil refineries in China. Yukong Ltd. said Monday it has been looking into building an oil refinery with an output capacity of 150,000 barrels a day in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, in a joint venture with China. Construction of oil refining facilities with a daily capacity of 100,000 barrels and an oil dissolution plant with a capacity of 50,000 barrels would cost an estimated 1.1 billion U.S. dollars, a company official said.

Ssangyong Oil Refining Co. is planning to build a mammoth oil refinery in Shandong Province together with its Saudi Arabian partner, Aramco Co., a company official said.

The refinery, able to process 300,000 barrels of crude oil a day, is expected to be constructed 48 percent by Aramco, 20 percent by Ssangyong, 18 percent by Sinocem (China National Chemical Corp.), and 14 percent by the Shandong government. Aramco has a 35-percent stake in Ssangyong.

Although China has facilities designed to refine a total of 3.1 million barrels a day, it is only able to use 10 percent of its capacity to produce less than 20,000 barrels a day because most of its facilities are outdated, industry sources say.

Because most oil refineries are crowded in the northeastern part of the mainland, where the oil fields are situated, the central South region desperately needs refining plants to feed its brisk economic growth.

Mongolia Asks ROK To Allow Containership in Ports

SK2703031893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0202 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—Landlocked Mongolia has asked South Korea to let its containership visit Korean ports, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration [KMPA] said Saturday. Mongolian Ambassador Perenleyn Urjinlhundeb visited KMPA Administrator Yum tai-sup and discussed the matter Thursday. The ambassador said that Mongolia was forming a joint shipping company with China and Hong kong using Tianjin as home port, and he hoped the company's containership could visit Korean ports regularly.

Since Mongolia has no ports, it will use Chinese ports and wants the same treatment as China, the ambassador said. Yum said he hoped that Korean companies would be included in the joint company and said that he would positively consider the proposal. Korea and Mongolia normalized relations in March 1990. Korea's exports to Mongolia reached 8.79 million U.S. dollars and imports 1.81 million dollars last year. Last year, 716 twenty-foot equivalent units of cargo were moved between Korea and Mongolia by third-country ships.

Delegation To Attend U.S. APEC Meeting

SK2703030593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0118 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to send a delegation to a high-level working meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, on March 31-April 2 to prepare for the fifth Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ministerial meeting. The Korean team will be led by Kwon Pyong-hyon, director of the Foreign Ministry's foreign policy planning office.

A Foreign Ministry official said on Saturday that the Williamsburg meeting will, among other matters, review short- and long-term goals and policy aspects of 10 APEC regional cooperation projects.

Joint projects include the review of trade and investment data, trade promotion, expansion of investment and technology transfer, development of manpower resources, energy development, conservation of marine resources, telecommunications, fisheries, transportation and tourism.

UN General Assembly Chairman To Visit 30 Mar

SK2903092893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0735 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—Stoyan Dimitrov Ganev, chairman of the United Nations General Assembly, will make an official visit to Seoul from Tuesday to Sunday at the invitation of South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday.

Ganev, a former Bulgarian foreign minister, will meet with Prime Minister Hwang In-song and Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong during his stay for talks on U.N. issues.

Government Sets 23 April By-Election Date

SK2903092593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—The government and ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) have picked

April 23 as the date for by-elections in the Tongnae-A and Saha districts in Pusan and Kwangmyong in Kyonggi Province.

In a party post-holders meeting, DLP Secretary-General Choe Hyong-u said Monday it was desirable to hold the three by-elections on April 23 and he would recommend that date to the government after conferring with the opposition. The ruling party is expected to start full-fledged campaigning with rallies for reorganizing party chapters in the constituencies on April 2. The DLP has nominated Kang Kyong-sik, formerly a finance minister, to run in Tongnae-A district, Pak Chong-ung, a presidential secretary, in Saha and progressive Sogang University Professor Son Hak-kyu in Kwangmyong.

Government Reshuffles Public Enterprise Leaders

SK2603123193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1155 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—The government on Friday afternoon effected a reshuffle of the heads of public enterprises under the control of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy. In the shakeup, Pak Yong-to, former vice trade-industry minister, was named to serve as the president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA), and Kim Tae-chun, former director of the patents administration, as the president of the Korean exports insurance corp.

Yi Chong-hon, president of the Korea Power Engineering Corp., was designated as president of the Korean Electric Power Corp., and Yi Su-kang, former vice president of the Korea heavy industries and construction co., as its president. Also in the reshuffle, former legislator Cho Chong-ik was named as president of the Korea Mining Promotion Corp: Pak Chong-pu, former vice Health and Social Affairs minister, as president of the Korea Gas Corp.; and Chang Sok-chong, former assistant energy and resources minister, as president of the Petroleum Development Corp.

Kwon Son-yong, president of the Korea General Chemical Corp.; Kim Chong-ho of the Dai Han Coal Corp.; Kim Hyong-pae, chairman of the Small Industries Promotion Corp.; and directors Hwang In-chong of the industrial research institute, Pak Hong-sik of the industrial technology institute, Yi Hoe-song of the Energy Research Institute, and Kim Yong-uk of the production technology institute were unaffected in the reshuffle.

DP Launchs 'Extensive Reorganization'

SK2903092693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0537 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] has embarked on an extensive reorganization project to slash spending and streamline management. The DP will do away with 10 of its more than 40 committees, bureaus and offices and fire 20 percent of its some 200 paid officials, saving the cash-strapped party 150 million won (191,300 U.S. dollars) a month. At the same time, it will boost the number of technical researchers in its policy committee from 15 to 20. The party is aiming to complete the restructuring by early April, according to party insiders.

Resignations Follow in Wake of Asset Disclosures

Vice Ministers Disclose Assets

SK2703072593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0337 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—The series of assets disclosures by high-ranking public officials continued Saturday with 125 vice minister-level officials. The 125—24 vice ministers, 12 agency administrators, 14 mayors and provincial governors, 15 provisional superintendents of education, 39 chief high public prosecutors, 14 officials, including deputy directors of the Agency of National Security Planning [NSP], the NSP planning and control office chief, and chief secretaries to the prime minister—listed assets with an average value of 1,073.7 million won (1.35 million U.S. dollars).

The vice minister-level officials and their families were worth 35.78 million won more than minister-level officials, whose assets averaged 1,037.9 million won, and twice the amount of senior presidential staff, who came in at 553 million won.

On the orders of President Kim Yong-sam, vice minister-level officials estimated their assets using set standards—apartments and land at the government appraised value for tax purposes.

The wealthiest here was Chong Song-chin, head of the central investigation department at the supreme public prosecutor's office, with real estate, stock and movables totaling 6,258.1 million won.

Next on the list by wealth were Kang Sin-tae, administrator of the Korean National Railroad, with assets worth 4,890.2 million won; Kim Chong-suk, vice minister for women's affairs (second state vice minister for political affairs), with 4,216.1 million won; Kim To- un, deputy supreme prosecutor-general, with 3,994.1 million won; Choe Sin-sok, director-general of the criminal affairs department at the supreme public prosecutor's office, with 3,747.6 million won; And Kim Yu-hu, head of the Seoul high prosecutor's office, with 2,795.9 million won.

Trailing the leaders in wealth were industrial property office administrator An Kwang-ku (2,666 million won), Vice Justice Minister Sin Kon (2,501.9 million won), First State Vice minister for Political Affairs Chong Song-chol (2,463.5 million won), Administrative Coordination Secretary for the Prime Minister Kim Si-hyong (2,410.7 million won), National Police Administrator Kim Hyo- un (2,396.1 million won), and Maritime and Port Administrator Yom Tae-sop (2,281.6 million won).

Yu Kil-sun, a commissioner at the Board of Audit and Inspection, has assets of 2,255 million won; Yi Pan-suk, administrator of the rural development office, 2,137.5 million won; Choe Hwan, head of the public securites department at the supreme public prosecutor's office, 2,085.4 million won; and Pyon Chae-il, chief of the high public prosecutor's office in Pusan, 2,009 million won. They were at the tail end of the rankings for people above 2 billion won.

Leading the 26 officials with assets above 1 billion won were Assistant Seoul Mayor U Myong-kyu (1,943.4 million won), Chief Public Prosecutor of Cheju Yi Won-sung (1,794 million won), Vice Defense Minister Yi Su-hyu (1,755.7 million won), Education Superintendent of South Chungchong Province Paek Sung-taek (1,726. 8 million won), Judicial Research and Training Institute Vice President Pak In-su (1,694.5 million won), Vice Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Cho Kyu-il (1,655.5 million won), and Military Manpower Administrator Om Sam-tak (1,626.7 million won).

Other notables are National Tax Administrator Chu Kyong-sok with 1,320 million won, Chief High Public Prosecutor of Taejon Yi Kun-kae with 985 million won, Korean Customs Administrator Kim Kyong-tae with 555 million won, and First Deputy NSP Director Hwang Chang- pyong with 695 million won.

Kang Sin-hwa, education superindendent of South Kyongsang Province, was bottom of the 125-person list with assets of 118 million won.

Others of modest means were Kim To-hyon, secretary-general of the advisory council on democratic and peaceful unification (212.4 million won); Inchon Mayor Choe Ki-sun (227 million won), and Pak Hae-chun, president of the Central Institute for Educational Research and Training (248.4 million won).

Like the ministers and Democratic Liberal Party lawmakers who disclosed their assets earlier, a host of vice minister-level officials own forest and farmland for unclear reasons, raising suspicion of speculation.

Officials in economic ministries, state management, prosecutor's offices, and the police are much better off then their counterparts in other ministries and administrations. Many of the vice minister-level officials also had memberships of golf and sports clubs, and condominiums.

Judicial Official Resigns

SK2703032393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0253 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—The president of the Judicial Research and Training Institute, Kim Chae-chol, tendered his resignation Saturday amid reports that the nation's senior judges and judicial officials were to disclose their personal assets.

Kim indicated in the wake of a routine personnel reshuffle in February that he would resign from his post to make way for junior officials and apparently decided to quit when the question of whether members of the judiciary have to make their personal assets public came up, following similar action taken by the administrative and legislative branches of government.

Kim is known to be one of the richest judicial officials as he possesses several million pyong (one pyong equals 3.3 square meters) of land throughout the country, including some that he inherited, sources said.

With his resignation, the number of vacant vice ministerial posts in the judiciary rose to two. The first vacancy was created by the resignation of the chief judge of the high court in Taejon.

Kim Chae-sun Resigns

SK2903041793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0015 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—Rep. Kim Chae-sun resigned his seat in the National Assembly Monday morning in a public outcry at his disclosed assets, following in the footsteps of Reps. Yu Hak- song and Kim Mun-ki.

A seven-term assemblyman, Kim has served as chairman of the National Assembly Commerce and Industry, and the Finance and Economy committees, as floor leader of the now-defunct Democratic Republic Party, and as speaker of the assembly. Kim said that he would retire from politics.

Resignation Affects Colleagues

SK2903095293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0839 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—With Kim Chae-sun's resignation as a ruling party lawmaker and his retirement from politics, the bell began to toll Monday for the political careers of some Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] leaders. But in a surprise move a few hours later, Pak Chun-kyu, speaker of the National Assembly, announced he was getting out of the DLP rather than fighting pressure by the party to give up his seat in the legislature for allegedly accumulating huge personal wealth through suspected speculation in real estate. Pak has said he will submit his resignation as speaker when the legislature convenes an extraordinary session in April.

Unlike Pak, Kim, a former speaker of the assembly, had been expected to stay in the party after getting off the hook with disciplinary punishment for allegedly amassing a personal fortune using his official and political influence. But after the unexpected announcement by the 69-year-old Kim, many observers said that they were surprised at President Kim Yong-sam's will and the intensity of his determination for reform. They were shocked because Kim Chae-sun was an unswerving leader of a DLP faction that had supported Kim Yong-sam since the three party merger in February 1990 that formed the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

Kim Chae-sun had also played a leading role in fostering an atmosphere within the DLP for the nomination of Kim Yong-sam as the party's presidential candidate. There were quite a few analysts who openly expressed their disbelief when Kim Chae-sun made his announcement. President Kim was "heartless," some said. Kim Chae-sun himself said in a statement that he could not help feeling that "when the hunting for rabbits is over, it's the hunting dogs' turn to be eaten." He thus showed that he felt he was going out as a sacrificial lamb. Nevertheless, Kim Chae-sun said he earnestly wished for the democratic development of the country.

Some analysts said, meanwhile, that President Kim and the party had obviously forced Kim Chae-sun to quit the assembly in order to put more pressure on Pak Chun-kyu so that he would have no choice but to follow suit. But Pak proved to be much tougher—if not shamelessly self-righteous and morally insensitive—than expected as he has obviously decided to brazen it out in the face of mounting political pressure and public criticism. In a statement, Pak said he had decided to leave the party "in order to help the nation and the party to settle the current state of affairs (involving disclosure of personal assets), while maintaining my personal honor." As the "biggest fish" has got away, the ruling party plans to force two other lawmakers to give up their seats in the National Assembly while meting out disciplinary measures against the rest who have caused what has come to be known as the "personal asset disclosure crisis."

In addition to Kim Chae-sun, Yu Hak-song and Kim Mun-ki, the ruling party will add two more from three possible lawmakers—Reps. Yim Chun-won, Chong Tong-ho or Yi Won-cho—for a total of five to resign their seats in the assembly. Reps. Chong Ho-yong, So Chong-hwa, Chong Chae-mun, Kang U-hyok, Pak Kyu-sik, Kim Yong-chin, Yi Myong-pak, Nam Pyong-u, Kim In-yong and Yi Yong-chang are expected to receive heavy or minor disciplinary punishment or the party president's warning. Kwon Hae-ok, chairman of an ad hoc committee for reviewing personal assets declared by party members, said the party had not yet decided what kind of punishment it would mete out to each of the lawmakers.

The final decision would be made after consulting Chongwadae [presidential offices], Kwon said, indicating that the party would decide who would be resigning from the National Assembly later on Monday.

Prosecutors Tender Resignations

SK2903093493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0813 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—Two high-ranking public prosecutors tendered their resignations Monday amid a mounting public outcry at the way they amassed the wealth that they disclosed over the weekend.

Chong Song-chin, head of the central investigation department of the prosecutor general's office, said in a letter of resignation to Prosecutor General Pak Chong-chol that he had decided to resign "to protect the organization of the prosecution and contribute to smooth execution of law."

"Never have I or members of my family speculated in land or evaded taxes. Nor have I done anything immoral. I take pride in my service as a clean and dutiful public servant. But I decided to resign because the property that my wife inherited from her mother has become the target of public attention," Chong said. Chong revealed assets of 6.25 billion won, making him easily the wealthiest of the 125 vice minister-level officials who made financial disclosures on Saturday. Choe Sin-sok, director-general of the Criminal Affairs Department at the Prosecutor General's Office, also sent in his resignation. He is fifth richest with 3.74 billion won.

Representative To Leave DLP

SK2903113493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1110 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—Rep. Yim Chun-won of the Democratic Liberal Party, offering regret for a controversy over his fortune, said on Monday afternoon he was bolting from the ruling party. In a statement, Yim claimed that the reports that he and his families had deliberately omitted some of their assets and scaled down some others in the listing of their assets, were not true. "However, I am apologizing for the controversy that has developed over our assets and am turning some of our properties over to the society," Yim said. He said that for instance he would donate his 14.2 percent shares in the Kunsan Tourist Hotel to the Serim Medical Foundation and his 50-pyong land with a building on it at Chuan-tong, Inchon to the Inchon Sekwang Hospital. He will also turn the board chairmanship of the Serim Medical Foundation and the Hanrim Scholarship Foundation, being held by his wife and brother-in-law, over to someone else, Yim said in the statement.

Electronics Exports Post Increase

SK2903044293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0310 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea's electronics exports rose 9.9 percent to 3.2 billion U.S. dollars in the first two months of this year over the same period last year, the Korea Electronic Industry Cooperative (KEIC) said Monday. Exports grew 2 percent to 1.5 billion dollars in January over the same month in 1992, surged 18.4 percent to 1.68 billion dollars in February and are up 11.3 percent to 1.1 billion dollars so far this month.

Noting that exports stopped at 7-percent growth last year, KEIC officials said that overseas sales of electronics had turned for the better since last month. The export heroes are semiconductors, computers and telephones, but shipments of video cassette recorders, microwave ovens and magnetic heads remain sluggish. Memory chips exports were 1.1. billion dollars as of February, up 11.1 percent over the same period last year; computers, 500 million dollars (up 47.1 percent); and telephones, 60 million dollars (up 74.2 percent). Shipments of computer hardware such as monitors and hard discs surged 59.5 percent, but those of computers themselves shrank 20 percent. Cordless and car phones were popular in Europe. VCR exports were 145 million dollars for the last two months, down 16.2 percent; microwave ovens, 89 million dollars (down 11 percent); and magnetic heads, 35 million dollars (down 16.7 percent).

Korean manufacturers are having better luck in the United States and Southeast Asia and exports to Europe had picked up from last year's minus 8 percent, KEIC officials said.

Burma

General Than Shwe Delivers Armed Forces Day Speech

BK2703092393 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 0117 GMT 27 Mar 93

[48th Armed Forces Day address by General Than Shwe, commander in chief of the Defense Services, delivered at the Armed Forces Day Parade held at Resistance Park, Rangoon, on 27 March—read by announcer]

[Text] Today, 27 March, which commemorates the 48th Armed Forces Day—Resistance Day, is a special day of significance for the nation and the Defense Services. At this significant 48th Armed Force Day parade, I would like to stress four objectives.

These four objectives are: efficiently discharging duties in current national politics; the participation of the Defense Services in the leading role in future national politics; striving to preserve the unity and capability of the Defense Services; and preserving the outstanding and cherished traditions of the Defense Services.

All of us have the responsibility to preserve the cherished and outstanding traditions of the Defense Services. The Defense Services fought and repulsed the imperialists and fascists in order to free the beloved motherland from the bondage of servitude and to establish a sovereign nation. The Defense Services was founded with the solid support from the indinegous people.

The basic spirit and attitude, which has been upheld by the Defense Services in the last 50 years since its inception in December 1941, has been to protect and safeguard with their lives the interests of the motherland and the citizens and to constantly serve the interests of the motherland and the citizens. This spirit and attitude reflect the inherent quality of the Defense Services and its national character.

It should be borne in mind that in the course of the history of the Defense Services, all members of the Defense Services have no personal objective to enjoy special privileges and they have no other objective other than to safeguard, to protect, and to serve the interests of the motherland and people—our parents. Therefore, the loyalty of the Defense Services toward the nation and the citizens, together with its cherished and correct national character, has been very strong and deep. Because of this correct stand and performance, the Defense Services have received solid support from the indigenous people—our parents. This shows that the people and the Defense Services are united in harmony.

Reviewing the 50-year history of the Defense Services, it can be seen that in times of national danger, the Defense Services have always sacrificed in repulsing the dangers to the nation. The 1948-49 period in the country was marked by armed insurrection and unrest—some of which were aimed at obtaining state power while some were based on racial hatred instigated by imperialists. The strength of the insurgents at that time was estimated to be 55,000 and the Defense Services, which at that time had about four or five regiments, stood firm and repulsed the danger.

The newly independent country at that time faced the danger of losing the country's independence and disintegration of the Union. Many patriotic youths joined the Defense Services and defended the country from the danger of insurgents and destructive elements. Factional fighting within the ruling political party accelerated in 1958 and there was much division among the people over party affiliation. Some went to the extent of attempting to use armed elements raised by some parties against the Defense Services. The magnanimous Defense Services had to intervene and restore the country's situation.

The Defense Services, in its capacity as caretaker government, worked for the prevalence of law and order during the 1958-60 period. New satellite towns, which you now see as Okkala and Thaketa, were built. In 1960, the general elections were held and the country was put back on the path of multiparty democracy. Then in 1962, the so-called genuine federal policy, which posed a serious threat to national unity and the Union, emerged. The Defense Services had to intervene in time and assume [state] responsibility in order to preempt disintegration of the Union and to prevent bloodshed arising from the serious antagonism among the fraternal memebers of the Union.

No elaboration on the danger of the events of 1988 is needed as it was witnessed by all. The Defense Services again had to assume [state] responsibility since they could not remain indifferent to the prevalence of anarchy and the threat posed to the people's peaceful way of life, their lives, and to the country's independence and territorial integrity.

Up to today, the Defense Services had never assumed state responsibility out of its desire for power. The Defense Services had assumed state responsibility out of its concern over the disintegration of the country and the danger that could befall the lives and propertpy of the people. It had assumed responsibility to ensure the country and the people are reliably free from these dangers and the situation in the country is stable, strong, and reliable.

It is necessary to understand that the Defense Services had no choice but to assume responsibility because had it not done so, these dangers were certain to befall the country. National unity deteriorated following the 1988 events and we already know how the BCP [Burma Communist Party] Politbureau, which is opportunistic like a wild cat ready to exploit the forest fire, schemed and how they launched a massive assault on Mong Yang. We know about the kind of operations the KNU [Karen National Union] terrorist insurgents launched against border camps such as Methawe, Mela, and Mawpokay.

The members of the Defense Services valiantly sacrificed their lives at these battles. Had they not been able to fight, today's Myanmar [Burma] would have have changed on the world map. That change certainly would have been different from the present situation in the country, which is marked by unity. We could say it with certainty, because after 1988, many united countries disintegrated and they presently continue to experience casualties among their people.

According to lessons taken from some countries in the world between 1988 and 1993, the assumption of responsibility by the Defense Services in 1988 and its subsequent undertaking to preserve the Union and strengthen national solidarity among the national races are justified and it is an undeniable fact.

As we understand the assumption of state responsibility by the Defense Services due to times and circumstances, it is necessary to understand that the Defense Services absolutely has no intention to keep this duty of leading the country in the long run. As explained earlier, the Defense Services will systematically transfer state power to the people—the original owners of power—when the situation in the country improves and becomes stable and strong.

That is why, at present, the National Convention is being held with the objective of promoting the Lawkapala [eternal] principles of justice, equality, and liberty which would enable the emergence of a genuine multiparty democracy and guarantee the three cardinal causes—nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of national solidarity. These are the prior concerns of the Defense Services.

Consultations are to be made at the National Convention to lay down the basic principles for a state constitution containing the essence of these said principles.

Taking the opportunity of this significant 48th Armed Forces Day, I would like to explain one of the six objectives of the National Convention—participation of the Defense Services in the leading role in the future national politics of the country. The major objective of this objective is to ensure the perpetuation of the state and to safeguard long-term national interests. The leading role in future national politics is expansive and is profound and delicate in nature. Because of its expansive, profound, and delicate nature, the Defense Services finds itself in a situation wherein it is not appropriate to evade its duty to prevent the danger of disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity, and loss of national sovereignty in the future.

Therefore, the Defense Services have prepared to undertake appropriate duties to work hand in hand in the forefront of a leading role in future national politics. This, in fact, is the Defense Services duly performing its duty with the awareness that the people depend on it to defend the nation and the people. This cannot be refuted by anyone. It is necessary for the Defense Services to be in a position to defend and safeguard the nation and the people in response to the fast changing times and to prevent danger to the nation and the people. Thus, it has become necessary for the Defense Services to participate and cooperate in the leading role in the national politics.

In accordance with a lesson taken from experience in the not-too-distant past, it takes some time to construct and reform the country. It takes just a very short period of time to destroy and overturn the political, economic, and social fabric of the country. There are unforeseen dangers to the state from within and without the country during the course of democratic construction in the future. This objective [that of playing leading role in national politics] is aimed at being able to respond to these dangers at any time and any where with constant vigilance. In short, what should be understood is that the Defense Services, in accordance with its tradition of safeguarding the country with many lives in times of national danger, has thus decided to share the duty [tar wun ko wei-hmya yu mei lo hkan yu leik tar bei phyit kyaung] in its cherished conviction to safeguard in a timely manner the interests of the motherland and the people of the future with constant vigilance.

From here, I would like to emphatically point out a very import duty of Defense Services personnel. That is, the unity of the Defense Services. In the course of its history, the Defense Services had discharged its enormous and extensive national duties such as the joint struggle with the people to obtain independence, preservation of the independence that had been obtained, prevention of the Union from disintegration, and perpetuation of national sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Defense Services was able to stabilize the deteriorating situation in the country in 1948-49, 1958, 1962, and 1988 because of its consolidated unity.

Therefore, attempts through various means and forms by some elements to reorganize the Defense Services, which is united and strong and which is based on the spirit of patriotism, must not be accepted and we must protect the Defense Services from such attempts. As long as there is a united Defense Services in the country, the country will be strong and its prestige will grow. Once the strength of the Defense Services is undermined, the strength of the nation will be weakened. As long as the Defense Services is united and strong, all destructive elements will remain impotent.

Destructive elements will always be plotting to undermine the unity of the Defense Services. For instance, armed insurgents in the jungle at present are drafting their own constitution with provisions to change the structure of the Defense Services to weaken its strength. Therefore, it is necessary for the patriotic people as well as the Defense Services personnel to be cautious of these plots and acts aimed at undermining the strength of the Defense Services and not to fall into their trap and strive to further consolidate the unity of the Defense Services.

I would like to urge the Defense Services personnel, who are currently contributing their labor actively for national development, to maintain the momentum of their work and step up their work. Since its assumption of state responsibility, efforts are being made to bring about political and economic development and there is hardly any development projects in urban and rural areas and border regions which do not involve the labor of the Defense Services personnel.

Everybody has witnessed the labor of the Defense Services personnel in almost all of these activities. It is learned that the people show their appreciation by saying sadu [blessing] to the Defense Services personnel for their contribution of labor, for their strenuous work day and night, and for the hardships they undertook for development activities. These activities range from the construction of roads, irrigation, hospitals, schools, and markets, to the construction of parks, new towns, and villages. The Defense Services personnel are therefore urged to continue actively their contribution of labor and goodwill and to accept that there is no task that does not concern the Defense Services so as to carry out tasks that will benefit the national races and the people in the future. As you now, there are an abundance of natural resources in the country. What we really need is the people working diligently in unity, mastering new technologies comprehensively and gaining expertise, and actively contributing their labor with goodwill for the development of the country.

As we acquire technological know-how and expand necessary investments, the economy of the country will rise dramatically and the socio-economic life of the people significantly will improve. Therefore, all patriotic people are urged to work hard now.

On this 48th Armed Forces Day, I would like to point out the 12 noble traditions of the Defense Services, which all Defense Services personnel should uphold and strive qualitatively to improve. These traditions are: 1. patriotism; 2. good discipline; 3. loyalty; 4. unity; 5. capability; 6. willingness to sacrifice; 7. lack of importance attached to individual self-interests; 8. noble spirit; 9. bravery and willingness to face adversity; 10. willingness to bear hardship; 11. zeal, perseverance, and diligence; and 12. uphold our three cardinal causes [nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty].

In conclusion, I earnestly urge you to efficiently carry out the noble and correct duties of the patriotic Defense Services—efficient discharge of duties in current national politics; participation of the Defense Services in the leading role in future national politics; constant efforts to preserve the unity and improve the capability of the Defense Services; and preservation of the noble and outstanding traditions of the Defense Services.

Rangoon Radio Cites VOA on U.S. Hearing

BK2703131193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The VOA broadcasting station of the United States of America broadcasted a news release concerning the Union of Myanmar [Burma] at 0600 on 26 March. The full text of the news release is as follows:

Dear listeners: The U.S. Senate, after the new Clinton administration took office, has begun hearings on the US policy on Myanmar. Furthermore, foreign affairs congressional subcommittee members have also heard various wide-ranging views and opinions on the changes in the Asian country. U Khin Maung Win reports:

Dear listeners: The compatriot congressmen were appalled when two congressmen, who recently returned from Myanmar, told them about the programs of change by the Myanmar [Burmese] military government. Mr. Bill Archer, Republican congressman from Texas, and Miss Nancy Johnson, Republican congresswoman from Connecticut, told a Senate committee hearing that there were developments in health, education, and the economy. The lady senator, Miss Johnson, studied and judged the situations based on a written statement to the committee by (Marianne Segal), an American business representative who has a long history of business experience in Myanmar. The business representative, (Miss Segal), told a VOA reporter although there were rumors of human rights violations in Myanmar, the Myanmar Government is making changes more than most have imagined. In any definition and openly speaking, the persons governing the country are (?moderates). (Miss Segal) presented in her statement that their government should be supported and that although they are not a middle-class democratic government like us, they are middle class compared to their predecessors.

Another speaker, just like some committee members, said the changes in Myanmar are not enough. Maureen Aung Tin, a Burmese national from a private research organization, pointed out the changes in Myanmar are confined to selected areas and said there is substantial growth in the economic sector, but there is still a standstill in the human rights situation. She expressed her worries about the political changes and cited there was no freedom. She also pointed out that the normal general procedures of showing registration cards and needing written permission to go wherever one wants to go and to go whenever one pleases should be scrapped. She noted these conditions are worse than when she visited Yangon [Rangoon] in 1981.

Another matter is the nonappointment of an American ambassador in Yangon since 1990. Most speakers at the committee hearing agreed on the appointment of an ambassador as a matter of need. Apart from that matter, experts and senators believe there are still differences in opinion concerning the change in American policy.

Convention Delegates Continue Panel Discussions

BK2703132593 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Panel discussions of the nationalities and public service personnel national convention delegate groups were held this morning and afternoon in respective meeting halls in the Kyaikkasan Grounds. At the panel discussions, alternate panel chairmen and alternate chairmen of the respective groups of delegates explained the speech by U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC], on the prescription of chapter headings of the state constitution delivered on 24 March at the coordination meeting between the NCCWC and the Panel of Chairmen in the Saya San Hall in the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

The panel discussion of delegates from the nationalities group was held at 1000 in Meeting Hall No. 1. U Khin Maung Swe from Irrawaddy Division presided as alternate chairman and U San Tun acted as secretary at the meeting. Member of the Panel of Chairmen U Kyi Nyunt from Yangon [Rangoon] Division reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe.

U Thein Soe from Taunggyi Township, Shan State; U Aung Myint Thein from Thayet Township, Magwe Division; U Mya Soe from Pa-an Township, Karen State; U Zaw Win from Sinpaungwe Township, Magwe Division; U Mahn Kyaw Aye from Myaungmya Township, Irrawaddy Division; U Khun Kyaw Thu from Kalaw Township, Shan State; U Tint Aung from Pyu Township, Pegu Division; U Mya Thaung from Shwebo Township, Sagaing Division; U Aung Chit from Thaton Township, Mon State; U Aung Tun from Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division; U Hla Maw from Pegu Township, Pegu Division; U Mya Thein from Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division; U Aung Lin from Myittha Township, Mandalay Division; and U Mahn Ohn Maung from Pa-an Township, Karen State, presented suggestions on the report on the speech. The meeting ended at 1145 after deciding to present the report at the panel discussion of the nationalities delegate group on 27 March.

The panel discussion of the public service personnel delegate group was held at 1300 today in Meeting Hall No. 8. U Ant Maung from the Religious Affairs Ministry chaired the meeting and U Hla Win acted as secretary. The alternate member of the Panel of Chairmen reported on and explained the speech delivered by U Aung Toe on 24 March. U San Aung from the Energy Ministry, who is also member of the paper preparing group, then presented a suggestion paper to the delegates.

U Hla Kyi from the Public Services Selection and Training Board, and U Chit Hlaing from the Education Ministry gave their suggestions. The meeting ended at 1345 after deciding to submit the report of the group on 27 March.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the National Convention delegate groups representing the peasantry, workers, technocrats and intelligentsia, and other invitees presented their respective reports to the NCCWC today.

Discussions Continue 27 Mar

BK2803104993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Panel discussions of the delegates representing political parties and elected representatives at the National Convention were held this morning in the respective meeting halls in the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

At the panel discussions, delegates from the respective groups discussed and gave suggestions on the speech by U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC]. His speech was on the prescription for chapter headings of the state constitution delivered on 24 March at the coordination meeting between the NCCWC and the Panel of Chairmen in the Saya San Hall in the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

The panel discussion of delegates representing political parties was held at 1000 in Meeting Hall No. 5. The meeting was presided over by U Thazan Hla, National League for Democracy [NLD], as alternate chairman, with U Zeya as secretary. The delegates from the political party coordinated and discussed on the speech by U Aung Toe.

U Lwin, NLD; U Sai Aik Paung, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy [SNLD]; U Tun Yi, National Unity Party [NUP]; U Hkun Sein Win, Union Pa-o National Organization [UPNO]; U Teja Wai, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party [SSKDP]; U Maung Wai alias U Khin Maung Thein, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization [MKNSO]; U Kyar Shi, Lahu National Development Party; U Saw Than Aung, Union Kayin League; U Yan Kyinkan, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party; and U Nyi Thamote, Wa National Development Party participated in the discussion and gave suggestions. The reports on suggestions prepared by each party were then handed to the chairman for submission to the NCCWC. The meeting ended after the closing address by U Thazan Hla, chairman of the meeting.

The panel discussion of delegates representing elected representatives was held at 1000 in Meeting Hall No. 4. The meeting was presided over by U San Tha Aung, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, as alternate chairman, with U Myo Nyunt as secretary. At the meeting, a report on suggestions on the speech by U Aung Toe was read and presented by U Tun Yi, Sandoway Constituency Arakan State. The report was prepared by the delegates representing elected representatives from NLD and independent representatives. They were U Tun Hlaing, Bahan Constituency, Yangon Division; and U Hla Maung, Kyar-in Seikkyi Constituency.

Similarly, two reports on suggestions by delegates from SNLD, NUP, UPNO, SSKDP and MKNSO, were read by U Htaung Kho Tan, Tamu Constituency, Sagaing Division, and presented to the chairman for submission to the NCCWC. The delegates in this case were Dr. Hmu Tang, Thangtalang Constituency, Chin State; U Khin Maung Cho, Dimawhso Constituency, Kayah State; U Htaung Kho Tan, Tamu Constituency, Sagaing Township; U Tun Kyaw, Namhsan Constituency Shan State; and U Aung Thein, Ywangan Constituency Shan State.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Iranian Minister Previews Mahathir's Iran Trip

LD2803205293 Tehran IRNA in English 1654 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 28, IRNA—Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi described the coming visit of the Malaysian Prime Minister Mohamad Mahathir to Iran as a "very important" one for a number of reasons. The visit, the first by the Malaysian premier, to Iran will further improve the existing bilateral relations in many fields including trade and investment, Badawi said here on Sunday. Mahathir will be taking with him 52 top businessmen apart from cabinet ministers and senior government officials on his four-day visit to begin to April 3.

Malaysian businessmen are expected to meet their Iranian counterparts on joint ventures and other business opportunities. Three trade agreement are expected to be signed during the visit.

Badawi said Malaysia also looks at Iran as the gateway to the newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union, several of whom are Islamic countries. It is important for Malaysia to have a closer and wider cooperations with these countries in various fields, he added. Badawi said: "We are intensifying co-operation with the countries in Central and South Asia." Mahathir will first visit Uzbekistan before proceeding to Tehran.

Meanwhile, Iran's Ambassador to Malaysia Ahmad 'Ajallu'iyan said Iran looks forward to the Malaysian premier's visit.

"It can be a turning point in bilateral relation between the two countries," he told IRNA at the "open house" (public reception) hosted by Badawi on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr. Prime Minister Mohamad Mahathir will be highest ranking Malaysian official to visit Iran, he said.

The ambassador said: "This is an opportunity for both countries to increase bilateral relations especially in the political, economical and cultural fields".

Article Analyzes Malay Reaction to Rulers' Crisis

BK2803153393 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 27-28 Mar 93 pp III, IV

[Article by Rustam A. Sani, Senior Fellow at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Kuala Lumpur, in the monthly 'ISEAS Trends' distributed with the Business Times, entitled: "Phoenix-Like, A New Kind of Malay Arises"]

[Text] The controversy surrounding the constitutional amendments aimed at eliminating the legal immunity of the Malay rulers—which was recently passed by the Malaysian parliament after incorporating certain counter amendments by the Yang Dipertuan Agung—is not merely political and legal in nature.

The open debate on the position of the Malay rulers generated by the controversy—especially the series of "exposures" in the Malay press—was interpreted by some as a manifestation of profound cultural change being experienced by Malay society.

Such a debate would have been unthinkable a few years ago because it would have been considered politically too sensitive for the Malays, who have always considered their rulers as the symbol of their unity and political dominance in the context of Malaysia's multi-ethnic society.

But this time around, the situation is quite different. Not only was the issue openly discussed, but a group of about 100 Malay intellectuals who met in Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka [The Languange and Literature Council] to discuss the matter, defiantly declared that "the future of the Malays does not depend on the rulers, but on leaders who are morally upright and intellectually dependable". Excesses in the lifestyles of the Malay rulers that were tolerated for years have suddenly become the subject of vicious attacks.

Why has such a radical change in Malay political attitude suddenly emerged? One explanation is that the change is indicative of a profound cultural transformation among the Malays that has been brewing for some time now and has started to erupt in the 1990s. Whereas Malay political attitudes since the time of independence in the late 1950s had been marked by a lack of confidence—by a need to be constantly reassured of political dominance through asserting cultural symbols of distinctively Malay identity—the Malays of the 1990s are politically and economically more confident.

At the heart of this previous "lack of confidence" had been a keen awareness of Malay economic backwardness, and frustration with being unable to come out of the cocoon of rural peasant economic conditions maintained by the colonial structure of the past. Malay self-perception has always been that of a group within a multiethnic society unable to participate as a full partner in the modern economic life of the post-colonial state.

It was this structural social imbalance, perceived to be the cause of ethnic riots in 1969, that the New Economic Policy (NEP) of the early 1970s was supposed to address—and eradicate.

Whether the NEP has been able to bring the Malays squarely into the mainstream of modern economic life in postcolonial Malaysia is still a matter for debate. But one thing is certain: 20 years of the implementation of the NEP, with its plethora of measures designed to enhance the economic position of the Malays, has instilled a greater sense of Malay confidence—a sense of satisfaction that the degree of participation in the economic life of modern Malaysia is now commensurate with their bumiputra (native) status.

A number of social indicators of this new sense of confidence can be discerned. The National Development Policy (NDP), introduced in the early 1990s to replace the NEP, while retaining its basic thrust, seems to show greater concern for the economic plight of other ethnic groups, such as the Indians.

The Third Bumiputra Economic Congress held in Kuala Lumpur in January 1992 was quite different from previous congresses in the sense that there was less emphasis given to the exclusive enhancement of Malay business and economic interests. Greater emphasis was instead given to enhancing economic cooperation among the ethnic groups.

Even UMNO [United Malays National Organization], the dominant Malay political party, has become distinctly less "exclusive" in its perception of what constitutes Malay identity. With the entry of UMNO into the Sabah political arena, the party has now accepted non-Muslim bumiputras in Sabah as full members of the party. Recently, there have been moves to accept ethnic Portuguese from Malacca into the party as well.

Malaysia's vision of its political future into the next century has been formulated in a paper entitled "Malaysia: The Way Forward", presented by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed at the inaugural meeting of the Malaysia Business Council in Kuala Lumpur on 28 February 1991. The crux of the vision is that Malaysia should be a fully developed industrial nation (bangsa Malaysia) within one generation—that is, by the year 2020.

The reaction of the Malays to Dr Mahathir's vision—dubbed Vision 2020—is also somewhat indicative of their newly-acquired confidence. There has not been any conspicuous objection to the idea of cultural transformation needed for the creation of the fully developed industrial society, nor creation of a new "national identity"—the bangsa Malaysia. Even Malay opposition political parties were merely expressing their sense of apprehension that Malays may not be fully prepared to participate as equal partners in the project—and may, in the process, lose their dominance and even their identity.

Dr Mahathir himself seems to share that apprehension, seen in his constant calls to Malays to change their ways and values, urging them to take part in modern business activities, and to work doubly hard so as to compete with the other ethnic groups.

In his Presidential Address at the UMNO General Assembly on Nov 8, 1991, the Prime Minister went even further by emphasising the need to create a "new Malay and bumiputra race" (bangsa Melayu dan Bumiputra yang baru) which is both psychologically and culturally prepared to enter the 21st century.

His definition of the new Malay seems to be a "cultural" one—"an ethnic group whose culture is in keeping with the times, who (is) capable of facing all challenges, who (is) willing to compete without enjoying special privileges, who (is) educated and learned, sophisticated, sincere, disciplined, trustworthy and efficient".

Are Malaysia's Malays ready for the cultural transformation demanded of them in realising Dr Mahathir's Vision 2020? Cultural transformation is an abstract concept which is very difficult to put a handle on. "Melayu baru" as a concept, however, has certainly gained currency among today's Malays—both as an excuse and an explanation for doing things differently from the ways that they have always been done in the past.

When some Malays in Kuala Lumpur were recently accused of being "un-Malay" for the way they criticised the Malay rulers, their answer was: "Of course we are being un-Malay, we are the new Malay (Melayu baru)."

[Footnote] The views expressed in this article are his [the author's] own and do not represent those of the institute.

Minister Criticizes Reuter for 'Improper Reporting'

BK2703134893 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] The government has advised the Reuter news agency to be cautious in reporting on Malaysia so as not to make mistakes. The minister of information, Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, said the government has completed its investigation into a report by the agency that racial clashes had occurred in the country over the amendment to the constitution to restrict the legal immunity of the rulers.

He told reporters in Johor Baru that Reuter was cooperative and furnished the government with information on the report and the government was satisfied with the explanation. Datuk Mohamed said the agency had picked the news report from Singapore. It assumed that racial clashes took place in Malaysia over the amendment.

He said the report from Singapore was based only on assumption and added that it was improper to report on assumption. He said foreign news agencies should not totally accept the views of people not aligned to the government or UMNO [United Malays National Organization] and then make assumption.

Singapore

Tourism To Play Increased Role in Economy

BK2603142093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Singapore, March 26 (AFP)—Singapore, bidding to boost earnings from tourism, expects visitors from neighbouring countries and East Asia to grow faster than those from other regions, a government report said Friday.

The Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (STPB) Strategic Plan for Growth said intra-regional travel in Asia-Pacific and to Singapore would expand over the short and medium term as disposable incomes grow.

Singapore drew 5.99 million visitors last year with earnings from tourism, after accounting for what Singaporeans spent on travel overseas, totalling 4.4 billion dollars (2.7 billion U.S.) or 6.3 percent of gross domestic product.

"We aim to further increase tourism's contribution to the economy over the next few years," the STPB report said.

Under the strategic plan, the STPB is working to raise gross receipts from tourism by 10 percent annually to 11.4 billion dollars (6.9 billion U.S.) by the end of 1995.

It hopes to achieve this by drawing some 6.8 million visitors annually by the end of 1995 while maintaining each visitor's average length of stay at just under four days.

"For Singapore, arrivals from the Asian markets will expand at a faster rate than those from America, Europe and Oceania in the short term," the STPB report said.

It said that the growth in arrivals will largely come from members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong.

The ASEAN groups Singapore with Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

"With the political situation in South Africa and Indochina stabilising and with developing countries like China and South America heading towards steady economic growth, opportunities are evolving from these new markets," the STPB report said.

Holiday makers comprised 59 percent of visitors to Singapore last year followed by business travellers making up 13 percent and transit visitors nine percent, with other categories not listed.

About half of the visitors were between 25 and 44 years old.

The Japanese were the largest single group of visitors last year totalling some one million, followed by Taiwan and Australia.

The STPB report said it expected to see a further increase in the number of Japanese visitors particularly couples on their honeymoon and single women.

"We think that our reputation as a very safe destination has something to do with the large number of Japanese honeymooners and single women coming here," an STPB official said.

Air, Tourist Links With South Africa Increase

BK2603145093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0856 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Singapore, March 26 (AFP)—The sharp increase in the number of South African tourists to Singapore last year has prompted the island state to increase its airlinks and promotional activities there, the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (STPB) said Friday.

A STPB statement said together with the launch of a new air link to South Africa next week when the national carrier, Singapore Airlines (SIA), begins a weekly service to Durban, the board would be holding several promotional activities.

SIA, which began a twice weekly service to Johannesburg exactly a year ago, begins a [words indistinct] weekly flight to Durban Tuesday, via Johannesburg.

The statement added that the joint SIA-STPB promotion was in the light of a 94 percent increase in tourist arrivals from South Africa to Singapore last year to nearly 26,000. It attributed the sharp increase to SIA's service to Johannesburg.

Cambodia

Bangladeshi UN Peacekeeper Slain

BK2803074893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0726 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 28 (AFP)—A Bangladeshi peacekeeper serving with United Nations forces was killed overnight Saturday in an attack in Cambodia's northwestern Siem Reap province, U.N. officials said Sunday. He was the first foreign U.N. soldier to die in conflict in Cambodia.

The soldier was posted with a Bangladeshi company in the Angkor Chum district, north of the town where the historic Angkor temples are situated. His post came under fire in the early part of the evening, said U.N. deputy force commander Brigadier General Robert Rideau. Asked if the Khmer Rouge might have been responsible, Rideau replied: "We think it is." He added, however, that this could not be confirmed. There has been tension with the Khmer Rouge in the district before, and the number of ceasefire violations in Siem Reap province as a whole have been increasing in recent weeks, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

It was the first time a non-Cambodian working for the U.N. peacekeeping operation has been killed. On January 12, two Cambodian women working as election registrars were killed in an attack near Siem Reap that was later blamed on the Khmer Rouge. Rideau said the United Nations had no immediate plans to reinforce the peacekeepers in Siem Reap.

UN Spokesman Offers Details

BK2803085293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0835 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, March 28 (AFP)—A Bangladeshi peacekeeper serving with U.N. forces was killed overnight when suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas deliberately attacked a U.N. post in northwestern Cambodia.

forcing the peacekeepers to engage in a three-hour battle to repel the attack, U.N. officials said Sunday.

The private, whose name was withheld pending notification of his family, was the first foreign soldier to die in hostile action in Cambodia, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

"There is little doubt that this assault was a deliberate attack against UNTAC," the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia, Falt said.

"If it is proven to be the (Khmer Rouge), we will make vehement protests and I am sure that the international community will demand an explanation," he said.

The Bangladeshi company in the Angkor Chum district, 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of the tourist town of Siem Reap, came under a mortar and assault rifle attack that lasted three hours, he said. The attackers fired 60 mortar shells in and around the camp and fired some 1,000 rounds of ammunition, Falt said.

The Bangladeshi soldier was hit in the jaw with shrapnel and in the leg with a bullet and could not be evacuated until the three-hour attack was over. He died of his injuries at the U.N. hospital in Siem Reap six hours later, Falt said. The attackers at one point were 200 to 300 meters (yards) from the camp, he said. "They were getting closer and there was certainly a need to push them away," Falt said. [passage omitted] "There have been previous skirmishes of a much lesser scale in the Angkor Chum area, but nothing of this sort," Falt said.

The United Nations had no immediate plans for reinforcement because the peacekeepers have sufficient manpower to repel such attacks, Falt said. [passage omitted]

Security Situation at 'Worst Level'

BK2903082593 Hong Kong AFP in English 0814 GMT 29 Mar 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 29 (AFP)—The security situation in Cambodia appeared to be reaching its worst level Monday since U.N. peacekeepers arrived here one year ago, as Khmer Rouge guerrillas and other gunmen repeatedly target U.N. personnel, engaging them in battle twice over the weekend.

One three-hour gunbattle between suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas and Bangladeshi peacekeepers in northwest Cambodia left the first U.N. soldier dead in hostile action in Cambodia. In a second attack in a southern province, Bulgarian peacekeepers battled unidentified gunmen for two hours after the gunmen attacked a U.N. civilian police station.

A number of U.N. peacekeepers have been robbed at gunpoint of their four-wheel drive vehicles in recent weeks, although the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has not been able to give an accurate count of how many vehicles are missing.

Added to an increase of massacres of ethnic Vietnamese civilians by the Khmer Rouge and the subsequent flight of hundreds of Vietnamese seeking refuge in Vietnam, the situation in Cambodia is growing increasingly perilous.

The body of Bangladeshi Private Say Mohammed Yusuf, 25, was in Phnom Penh awaiting repatriation to Bangladesh following the gunbattle Saturday night involving the Bangladeshi company of peacekeepers posted north of Siem Reap, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

The peacekeepers and guerrillas fired mortars, assault rifles and grenades at each other before the attackers could be repelled from the U.N. post, Falt said.

"Undoubtedly this is something we've never seen before," he said. "It's very obvious there have been more attacks in the last 10 days, including against U.N. personnel, than in previous months."

The guerrillas, numbering about 80, also shot up and looted U.N. houses and stole more than $2,500 worth of belongings, the spokesman said.

The attackers also were closer to the U.N. bunker than originally thought, Falt said, as bloody bandages apparently from one of the attackers was found 30 meters from the scene. The number of wounded guerrillas was not known, but four civilians were injured, Falt said.

Two previous attacks on civilian populations in Siem Reap Province by suspected Khmer Rouge on Thursday and Friday nights left eight people dead.

In the second gunbattle in the wee hours of Sunday morning, about 30 unidentified gunmen attacked the civilian police station in a district of Kompong Speu province, 60 kilometers southwest of the capital.

The area is known to have frequent Khmer Rouge infiltration from the surrounding mountains. The Phnom Penh government has recently stepped up its checkpoints on National Route 4 to the Sihanoukville beach resort which passes through Kompong Speu.

The Bulgarian battalion returned fire with automatic weapons and an armored personnel carrier, and an additional number of Buglarians were called in to reinforce the area. It took two hours to repel the attack, but no peacekeepers were injured, Falt said.

Two Phnom Penh government soldiers were killed in the exchange, but the UNTAC spokesman said they offered little resistance to the attackers.

"In this second case it is less clear; we do not know who the attackers were," Falt said.

Another attack on a village in Kompong Speu on Friday night left four children dead of bullet wounds to the head and neck, the spokesman said.

Falt also said Cambodians were robbing UNTAC warehouses of radios donated by Japan for the election campaign. Armed bandits have raided warehouses in northwest Sisophon, and on Friday in eastern Kompong Cham, several hundred villagers broke into the U.N. wharehouses to steal the radios.

"We have to look at it as they're eager to listen to Radio UNTAC," Falt joked. The U.N. radio station broadcasts news of peacekeeping activities and political events ahead of the U.N.-organized election in May.

PDK Rejects Accusation Regarding Vietnamese

BK2703030193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Party of Democratic Kampuchea's spokesman's "rejection" of accusation by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, UNTAC; dated 26 March—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. UNTAC chieftains on 25 March conducted a propaganda campaign accusing the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] of being involved in the problem of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] living at Chhnok Tru in Kompong Chhnang Province.

2. The PDK totally and categorically rejects the intentional accusation with a dirty political purpose by the UNTAC chieftains.

3. The reality in Cambodia at present is that the UNTAC chieftains are not implementing the Paris 23 October 1991 accord correctly. They have colluded with the Yuon aggressors and their puppets to trample on and sabotage the accord. The UNTAC chieftains, in cooperation with the alliances in and outside UNTAC, have preserved the Yuon puppets in power, thereby maintaining old Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia and allowing an earthshaking influx of new Yuon aggressor forces for the purpose of invading, occupying, and swallowing the country. The Yuon aggressor forces, both old and new, in Cambodia now number more than 2.4 million, including more than 1.3 million holding Cambodian identity cards.

This is the most serious but intentional mistake committed by the Yuon aggressors, Yuon puppets, and alliances in and outside UNTAC with a well-defined plan and strategy. Specifically, the UNTAC chieftains—who have ignored the implementation of the Paris accord and the verification and control over the Yuon and who have maintained the old and new Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia—have forged laws allowing the Yuon to act at will in Cambodia. They have gone so far as to permit the Yuon aggressors to vote in order to enable the latter to enter the National Assembly and government, to become the master of everything in Cambodia, and to turn the country into another Yuon province.

These acts have proven that the Yuon aggressors, Yuon puppets, and UNTAC chieftains have joined forces to do away with the Cambodian nation, people, and race. And these acts constitute crimes which are more serious than those committed by Hitler's Nazis and the Fascists [word indistinct] and on which the Cambodian nation and people and histories of Cambodia and the world have already imposed a sentence. These actions are also the fascist actions perpetrated by the Yuon aggressors, the Yuon traitorous lackey puppets, and the alliances in and outside UNTAC. Especially, the UNTAC chieftains have joined hands to eradicate the Cambodian nation and people. The actions are more serious than the elimination of human rights and constitute the gravest, greatest, and deepest mistakes made by the Yuon aggressors, Yuon lackey puppets, and UNTAC chieftains. They are also adverse factors and the greatest criminal offenses perpetrated by the Yuon aggressors, Yuon puppets, and UNTAC chieftains.

The problem is as clear as daylight: They themselves, the arch bandits, have no right to hurl accusations at the Cambodian nation and people, in any case. [Dated] 26 March

[Signed] The PDK spokesman

'Suspected' Khmer Rouge Attacks Kill 12

BK2703115693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1132 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 27 (AFP)—Suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a village near the Angkor temple complex in northwest Cambodia, killing five people, while another attack by unidentified gunmen left four children dead of bullet wounds to the head, a U.N. spokesman said Saturday.

Villagers blamed the Khmer Rouge for the attack Friday night on the village of Kiang Sangke, 30 kilometers (19 miles) east of the Angkor temple complex in Siem Reap, spokesman Eric Falt said.

About 30 attackers fired B-40 rocket-propelled grenades and AK-47 assault rifles at a video parlor where a number of people were congregated, he said. Five people were killed and four were injured, including two children, Falt said. He said ceasefire violations and acts of violence were mounting in Siem Reap, but the United Nations had no plans to reinforce U.N. personnel in the province.

In southern Kompong Speu province at about the same time, a group of unidentified gunmen fired at several houses, hitting four children in the head and neck with AK-47 fire. They were all killed, Falt said.

In another incident in Siem Reap on Thursday night, this one 30 kms (19 miles) east of Angkor, about 30 gunmen looted households and went to a market and opened fire, killing three people, he said. The United Nations had no information on whether the attackers were Khmer Rouge, he said, but the guerrillas have been known to stage attacks in that area.

Urban Vietnamese Flee in Fear of KR Attack

BK2803074693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 28 Mar 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 28 (AFP)—Ethnic Vietnamese living in Cambodia's cities are terrified that the Khmer Rouge will infiltrate to carry out massacres as brutal as those in the countryside and have begun joining the exodus back to Vietnam.

Dozens of Vietnamese-speaking Cambodians interviewed over the weekend said they would leave within a week or that they had already sent their wives and children ahead for protection, while they try to sell their property for just a fraction of what they paid for it. Other families sent sons to look for jobs and houses in southern Vietnam and intended to join them soon.

"More than 90 percent of us in this village are Vietnamese and 70 to 80 percent of the Vietnamese in this village are going to leave," said Bich Truy, the 39-year-old owner of a Vietnamese coffee shop in the area called "Kilometer Nine," along the road paralleling the Tonle Sap river just north of Phnom Penh.

"The Vietnamese believe the Khmer Rouge can penetrate one or two at a time, kill us all and escape across the river just like that," she said. "The rich people have already left and the poor are prepared to go any minute."

If everybody leaves there will be no business, she said, but added she cannot get more than 1,500 dollars for the cafe she bought for 3,000 dollars six years ago. Her husband will stay behind to guard it while she takes her two children and newborn baby to Vietnam.

"If I buy a gun, people can accuse me of being (foreign forces), but I am only a citizen," her husband, Hoang, said. "If something happens, it's better to run away."

U.N. officials confirm that hundreds of ethnic Vietnamese from provicial areas have come to the capital to seek refuge or work before deciding whether to go on to Vietnam. They say privately that the next massacre by the Khmer Rouge could strike Phnom Penh—delivering the coup de grace to any illusions of safety harbored by the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese living in Cambodia. Most were born in this country and among the hundreds fleeing by boat to Vietnam from two recent massacres on Tonle Sap lake. [sentence as received] Most are third generation Cambodians.

Already, about 90 ethnic Vietnamese living in Cambodia have been reported killed in massacres by the Khmer Rouge since U.N. peacekeepers came to Cambodia. Most were killed in the last two weeks, when a total of 41 fishermen, women and children were shot or hacked to death in two separate attacks.

"The Khmer Rouge told us to leave and if not they'll cut off our heads," said Nguyen Thi Tha, 25, who fled with her family by boat from the village near Wednesday's massacre in Kompong Chhnang and stopped in Phnom Penh on the way to Vietnam.

"If the situation is calm, I'll stay here. If not I'll go," she said.

But Nguyen Kin Hoa, 75, said she and her 80-year-old husband who are descendants of generations-old Vietnamese in Phnom Penh are too old to go anywhere.

"In the past few days, a lot of families have left and in the coming days, many are going to leave also," she said. "I have to stay here to tend my ancestors' graves. Better to die here than go to Vietnam."

Phnom Penh is not the only urban area affected by the flight. Than, a single 22-year-old mechanic, stopped in Phnom Penh on his way from Pursat, a central Cambodian city along the Tonle Sap lake. He planned to leave for Vietnam on his motorbike on Tuesday.

"Cambodia is full of racists and the Khmers are ignorant because the intellectuals were all killed by the Khmer Rouge," he said. "In the provinces it's worse, but here it's still bad." The Vietnamese economy is getting better, he said. "So we can make use of this occasion of the massacres to go back to make a living," he said. But others said they felt secure enough in Phnom Penh to stay.

"The Khmer Rouge can't come in the town," said Nguyen Van Hong, a 24-year-old boatsman on the river. "I'm not afraid of the Khmer Rouge. I'm staying."

Phnom Penh Residents Reportedly Kill 8 Vietnamese

BK2803075493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] According to a report from Phnom Penh, residents at Phsar Silep in the capital city recently attacked a group of Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] and killed eight of them. The local people and traders are furious with the growing number of male and female Yuon who—counting on the implanted Yuon police and military forces and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], which gives them a free hand to act and which recognizes the Yuon invasion of Cambodia—have come and controlled the area at will. They have misappropriated the people's land and traders' stalls at Phsar Silep market. The people, who are extremely furious with these Yuon, can no longer remain patient.

In the wake of the event, the Phsar Silep residents have commented that they need to deal seriously with these Yuon because they are very pretentious and are protected by the bad elements inside and outside UNTAC. If the people do not deal with them personally, Cambodians are certain to have no place to live.

Fighting Said 'Certain To Continue' After Polls

BK2703084993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Since the recent FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party congress in Oddar Meanchey Province, two groups of party members with two different views have emerged: The first group wants the FUNCINPEC Party to pull out from the elections while the other advocates the party's participation in the polls. The overwhelming majority of FUNCINPEC members, however, have decided that the party has to retract because the puppet Hun Sen has emphatically stated that it does not matter if he gets more or less ballots since he will win in the end. If the FUNCINPEC party wins, he will use force to assail the party and destroy the election results. He also said that he would not only attack the FUNCINPEC party, but other parties as well.

There is now a growing number of political parties which have withdrawn from or refused to take part in the polls because they have clearly realized that the current situation is bad. People predict that the Akashi-organized elections will end in failure in light of the parties' refusal to take part in the elections. Even if Akashi persists in holding the disabled elections, peace can never be brought to Cambodia because no one will accept the poll results or allow the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] and puppets to exert legal control over Cambodia. Consequently, fighting is certain to continue.

Phnom Penh Leaders Said Preparing To Flee

BK2803052693 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Station commentary: "Traitorous Phnom Penh Puppet Leaders Have Deposited Dollars in Australian Banks and Evacuated Their Wives and Children to Australia One After Another"]

[Text] According to reliable informed sources in Phnom Penh, the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] puppet leaders in the capital city, such as Hun Sen, Chea Sim, Hor Namhong, Tie Banh, Pol Saroeun, and so on have deposited in Australian banks the money they have amassed for nearly 15 years from selling out and destroying the nation. They have also evacuated their wives and children one after another to Australia. This is the principle of the group of puppets who betray and sell out the nation: Whenever the situation becomes unstable, they always prepare to abandon the country.

For nearly 15 years, the Yuon aggressors' traitorous lackey puppets have cooperated and colluded with the Yuon to instigate all manner of disasters upon the Cambodian nation and people. Their crimes are most serious and enormous. As the Cambodian people inside and outside the country have clearly seen, the traitorous puppet leaders—including Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, Tie Banh, Hor Namhong, Pol Saroeun, and so on—do not want to cease being lackeys of the Yuon aggressors, and the people have risen up against them everywhere.

The Yuon of Hanoi, with more than 200,000 soldiers and full assistance from the Soviet Union and the East, were unable to do anything to the Cambodian national resistance forces [CNRF] and the Cambodian people over the past 13 years. And since the signing of the Paris accord, the Yuon aggressors and their puppets, although backed by the alliances inside and outside UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], have been completely unable to break the backs of the CNRF and the Cambodian people. Everyone knows that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets are currently suffering a heavy defeat and that UNTAC has already failed. UNTAC can never restore peace to Cambodia. In the near future, it will walk away from the country in shame. Realizing this situation, the puppet leaders are collecting their money and belongings and are preparing to flee the country, leaving behind to die the troops, policemen, and officials who serve them futilely.

Phnom Penh Soldiers Reported Looting in Siem Reap

BK2803053493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] According to a report from Siem Reap Province, more than 100 puppet soldiers from Military Region 4 recently rose up against the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors and puppet leaders due to the worthlessness of the puppet riel bank notes. They also robbed the provincial town's shop owners, who had closed their stores for a week because they could no longer accept the worthless puppet currency.

The puppet soldiers also said that they would no longer fight because they were living miserably as animals, lacking food, medicine, clothing, and so on. They had not been paid, and even when they were paid, the bank notes were not accepted because they are the deceitful money printed by the Yuon aggressors, who are doing away with the Cambodian nation and people.

It is now widely known that the puppet leaders are evacuating their wives and children to foreign countries, especially Australia. They have deposited in Australian banks the dollars they have amassed from the sale of private land, houses, and state buildings so they can build houses there. Everyone knows that the puppet leaders are prepared to flee the country because they are well aware that they will be defeated by the Cambodian people, who will certainly not let them serve the Yuon any longer.

The puppet soldiers everywhere have revolted against the Yuon and puppets and have refused to fight. They say the puppet leaders have done nothing, except become involved in plundering, embezzlement, corruption, and bribery in order to amass money to put in banks abroad. The money is made ready for them for when they flee the country after their defeat to live in exile, leaving behind Cambodian soldiers, officials, and puppet policemen who are only awaiting their deaths.

Hun Sen Appeals for Votes

BK2603060193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Address to the nation by Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party and prime minister of the State of Cambodia; dated 24 March—recorded]

[Text] My respects to all venerable monks and beloved compatriots. First of all, I would like to thank the clergy and compatriots for providing assistance and support to the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] in all the tasks it had previously carried out. I would like to talk about a number of important points concerning the people's support for the party in its efforts to accomplish all those tasks.

First, the compatriots' support for the CPP—the only party which had struggled to topple the Pol Pot regime and liberate the people from this genocidal regime. Without our compatriots' support we could never have quickly ended the life of Pol Pot's political regime. Therefore, our compatriots' support for the cause of liberating the people from the genocidal regime constitutes a significant support which determined victory and also the path to rebirth.

Second, the compatriots' support for the CPP in leading the country through all kinds of difficulties in the past more than 14 years. We have accomplished many tasks after the liberation from the genocidal regime. This includes solving the bad consequences left behind by the Pol Pot regime, such as the problem of famine we faced in 1979 and 1980, which were unprecedented in Cambodia's history. Other problems concern orphans, resettlement, and all aspect of social organizations, and so on. All this was a tremendous task for the CPP and the government to solve.

Thanks to the people's contribution, we were able to accomplish this task and have reached the phase of rehabilitating and rebuilding the country in a situation in which the nation started from bare hands, with peace and war at the same time, and with an economic embargo in force. However, with a great contribution from compatriots, we have achieved immense results which are with us now in the form of a development that has spared us not only famine but also brought us rebirth and progress we are now experiencing.

Third, the compatriots' support for the CPP and the government to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return. As compatriots know, following the fall of this regime, with the support of some circles, Pol Pot has tried to return to power through military means. However, under the party's leadership and with the great participation of our compatriots, this genocidal regime has not been able to reappear on Cambodian territory for more than 14 years.

Fourth, the compatriots' support for the CPP and the government in the negotiations to find a peaceful solution leading to the signing of the Paris agreement and to the current implementation of this accord. The negotiations to solve the Cambodian problem politically were the only path chosen by the CPP aimed at ending the war through talks and at bringing about national reconciliation to rally human, intellectual, and material resources to rebuild the country following more than 20 years of war.

Without support from the clergy and compatriots, this task could never have been achieved. I would like to take this opportunity to pay respect to all those who died painfully in the Pol Pot regime and in the cause of preventing the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning. May their souls go to heaven; all of us pray that these souls help the Cambodian people survive and have peace.

Beloved clergy and compatriots: In the near future, in accordance with the Paris agreement, elections will be held with the participation of many political parties, except the Pol Pot group. The upcoming elections are of vital importance because they are not only for changing deputies, ministers, or prime minister, but also for changing the political regime. Therefore, the vote we cast can make us live or kill us.

We had been through changes of political regimes. Lon Nol used a military coup to change a political regime—from the constitutional monarchy, called the Sangkum Reas Niyum of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, to the Khmer Republic regime of Lon Nol. What did we receive from changing regimes this way? The change not only did not bring us good results but also Plunged us into a destructive war nationwide in which many Cambodian people died and a lot of property was damaged. Afterward, Pol Pot used military force to change from Lon Nol's Khmer Republic regime to Pol Pot's Democratic Kampuchea [DK]. What did we get as a result of such a change of political regime, apart from the death of more than 3 million people and the complete destruction of everything, as compatriots have witnessed?

Our party is the only party that has cooperated with the Cambodian people to topple the genocidal Pol Pot regime and set up the regime in which we are living. This regime is not a perfect one—it needs further reforms—but it has brought the survival, development, and freedom which compatriots are now experiencing. I would like to stress that the current regime is not a perfect one. However, this is not a political mistake.

As I used to say, in a bunch of coconuts there are good ones and bad ones. We have been making efforts to solve problems step by step, stage by stage, in accordance with political and economic conditions to enable us to improve the situation, which lately has been getting better. As I said, although it is necessary for this regime to solve remaining problems, it is a regime which has provided rebirth, progress, and freedom to the Cambodian people to enable them to move forward.

I would also like to stress that the unit for measuring progress or backwardness, correctness or incorrectness, incompetence or competence, is not a verbal campaign or a writing on paper. What is most important for determining what is correct and what is not, what is progress and what is not, and competence and incompetence, is this: moving from being rich to being poor is wrong; this is incompetence. However, changing from being poor to being wealthy is correct; this is competence.

Khieu Samphan has a doctorate degree in economics from France. He led Cambodia, along with Pol Pot, from 1975 to 1979. They have transformed the situation in which people possess houses, cars, motorcycles, equipment to use, and rice to eat, to one in which people have nothing to eat and cannot even afford shoes and clothes. So, what can this be called? Right or wrong? Is this competence or incompetence?

Our party, for its part, started from a situation in which we have nothing in our hands, with war and peace at the same time in the country, and with an economic embargo in force. However, from bare hands, we have reached the current stage. Although this is not yet very nice, it has allowed us to live and enabled us to achieve the current progress. This is the standard for measuring and determining what is right and what is wrong and what is competence and what is incompetence.

Many parties have said in their propaganda that if they won the elections, they will do better than this. This is their campaign right; I am not opposed to this kind of right. However, I would like compatriots to think about whether these parties are capable of doing better considering their political basis and human and financial resources.

On the political side, I firmly believe that no one political party has a clearer basis than the CPP, which is the only party that has been with the people since the struggle to topple the Pol Pot regime and has done so in the most difficult situation. Maybe those from abroad cannot know the Cambodian people and the latter's aspiration as well as the CPP and all levels of leaders of this party do. This is the most important basis.

CPP leaders, regardless of the situation and circumstances, have never deserted the people, in bad times as well as in good times. This party remains a realist party that has adopted policies most appropriate to the circumstances of the country and nation and to the history of the world and international situation, and also in accordance with the real aspiration of the Cambodian people. This is the political basis which I firmly believe that any political parties deviating from what the CPP has done would lead to danger. This is what various parties and the Lon Nol regime had promised to the Cambodian people. These people said that if they are given support to topple and win against HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, they would improve things. On the contrary, things not only did not improve but destruction spread throughout Cambodia, as our compatriots have witnessed.

The Khmer Rouge had promised to our people that if they were given support to topple the Lon Nol regime, they would improve things. However, the result was the opposite; not only did things not improve but millions of people's lives were lost and everything destroyed. Now these people have again promised that if they won they would improve things. I have examined their political sources. If these people want to improve things and do it differently from the policies adopted by the CPP, this would lead to nothing but confusion; it could even lead to the reestablishment of the genocidal regime.

Concerning human resources. Compatriots, please think about this. Are these political parties—whose officials are already established in some places—capable of replacing the current structure of the CPP and the State of Cambodia [SOC]? At many places, our compatriots have already seen that representatives of some of these parties are Khmer Rouge leaders or bad persons released from prisons—thieves, robbers, and gamblers. If these persons won the elections, they would become provincial and district governors, military officers, and police chiefs. Are they competent enough to replace all levels of the CPP's incumbent district chiefs, village heads, provincial governors, and officials? I cannot see that these persons are capable enough to replace the SOC structure, which has at its disposal tens of thousand of staff currently serving the people.

Concerning the financial resource, these people have promised that if they won, they would do this and that. They have even promised that this or that hundreds of dollars will be given to party (?members). Are they really capable of doing this? The CPP is a party in power and has a lot of possibilities; however, it cannot make such a deceitful promise. Over the past more than 14 years, the CPP has never promised to do this or that beyond its capability. This party has however provided concrete evidence of their activities. It has built schools, bridges, roads, monasteries without the need to win in elections. This is the CPP's habit.

Thus, on the three bases, political, human, and financial resources, I cannot yet see that these parties can do more than the CPP. True, these people have a right to campaign. However, we have seen what others had promised us, as I described earlier. Look at the promise made by the Lon Nol regime in order to win against HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk's regime. Look at the promise made by Pol Pot in order to win against the Lon Nol regime. What we received was quite the oposite. Now these promises are being widely made by various parties taking part in the elections. It is their political right to do so. I would just like to propose that compatriots examine and consider the effects and events which have taken place and which could take place in the future.

Beloved clergy, compatriots: The CPP has a historic mission in continuing to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning, to preserve social and national gains, the property of each family, and the life and freedom of all citizens. The CPP has the duty, the historic mission, and many tasks to carry out. It can only do all this if it has the ability to set up state authorities, the way it has done over the past 14 years.

Therefore, the CPP needs the continued support of the people and compatriots. What the party needs now is only the votes of the people and compatriots. This need is not as great as the time when we had to oppose the war and the return of the genocidal regime. We still continue to oppose the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. However, the tangible need this time is the votes of compatriots for the CPP, which would enable it to fulfill its historic role in continuing to prevent the genocidal regime from returning and to preserve social and national gains and each citizen's property, life, and freedom—what our efforts together have built over the past 14 years.

The CPP's political platform has been publicly disseminated. It is meaningful in every aspect. It clearly states its future tasks if the party wins the elections. On this occasion, I do not have enough time to elaborate on all the aspects of this political platform. I believe party members and officials will do this for the people.

On this occasion, I would like to pick and discuss only major issues concerning the lives of compatriots and our nation. In case the CPP wins the election, I would like to provide guarantees on two basic points. A guarantee is different from a promise. Many parties have made promises because they do not have anything yet to show for. This is because they have not yet done anything concrete. I am not only referring to Pol Pot. Just take the case of the construction of dikes, roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, and monasteries. These parties have not yet built any of this. So, they keep making promises that they would do this and that if they win.

As for the CPP, it does not make promises but provides guarantees. Promises and guarantees are not the same. For example, these parties say that if they win the elections they will build schools. The CPP does not put it like that. Instead, it says that if it wins, it will guarantee that this school will not be allowed to be dismantled and the school's teachers and pupils will not be allowed to be chased out as in 1975. On this basis, the CPP will continue to improve and repair the school, add to it, and provide more equipment. The standards of teachers will be raised and their salaries appropriately improved.

Thus, a promise is something that has not materialized yet; it is like a dream. However, a guarantee is something real with an assurance; that it will not be taken away. True, the CPP have made promises on several issues. However, the important thing is that it has provided guarantees on two points: the first is that if it wins, it guarantees that the genocidal regime will not come back. Why is the Pol Pot issue still raised at present?

I would like to inform the clergy and compatriots that Pol Pot is still Pol Pot. He still nurtures his ambition of returning to power through military means though more than 14 years have passed. Although this side has also signed the accord, Pol Pot has not implemented the agreement since. During the implementation of the accord, he has continued to attack and kill the people. He has not only attacked the innocent but also UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] staff, who have been attacked, killed or taken hostage. This is not to be forgotten. The genocidal Pol Pot regime remains a permanent threat to the Cambodian nation and all human beings. For this reason, the Pol Pot issue should be raised and a guarantee should be provided in each party's policy.

In the past, when Pol Pot attacked, no parties came out in defense of the people. UNTAC too did not come out to defend the people because its mandate does not include attacks against any side. So, when Pol Pot attacked, the best UNTAC could do was to retreat from places where the fighting took place. There have been events in Bavel District, Battambang Province, and in Stoung District [Kompong Thom Province]. Here, Pol Pot collaborated with FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and attacked the people and UNTAC. These events clearly show the protective and defensive capability of the CPP and the SOC, and not that of other parties or UNTAC.

On the Pol Pot issue, it is my belief that the clergy and compatriots do not have any doubt about the CPP's policy and capability. This is because it is the CPP that toppled the Pol Pot regime and opposed it for the past more than 14 years. This party has a policy of opposing Pol Pot and has the material forces to oppose Pol Pot, unlike other parties. Some parties also oppose Pol Pot but they have no material forces to prevent and oppose the Pol Pot regime.

Now even foreign countries are concerned that Pol Pot will easily come back through his allies if the CPP loses the coming elections. As compatriots know, the tripartite alliance still exists; it has not been dissolved yet. Therefore, if his friends win, there is no need to oppose Pol Pot's return. He just returns. So, it is very dangerous. If parties that also oppose Pol Pot win too, they have no force to oppose Pol Pot with. Our party, which has the capability of opposing Pol Pot, a policy of opposing Pol Pot, and the material forces to do this with, would no longer have the political and military power to oppose him. The situation will certainly be abnormal.

I therefore would like to make it clear once more that if the CPP wins the elections, the genocidal regime will not be allowed to be reborn on Cambodian soil again. Although Pol Pot may attack and create difficulties here and there, all of that is expected of Pol Pot, for Pol Pot has attacked Prince Norodom Sihanouk's administration since the 1960's, and after 1960. The polpotists may be able to harass us here and there, but they will not be allowed to ever again set up a regime of communal labor, communal kitchen, and mass killings so long as the CPP, Mr. Heng Samrin, Mr. Chea Sim, I—Hun Sen—and all other leaders of the SOC remain in power.

Second, the CPP would like to pledge that in case it wins the elections, everything that has already been built will never be seized or confiscated as in 1975. For example, schools, hospitals, bridges, or any other public amenities will never be turned into jails, dismantled and transformed into communal mess halls, placed under the control of the cooperatives, or simply obliterated. Private property, be it homes, land, assets, money, jewels, or intellect and ideas will not be plundered and sequestered as in 1975. We had the experiences in 1975 when Pol Pot wiped out all private ownership through the ban on the circulation of money, through the forced transfer of the population from one locality to another, and where there was no demographic dislocation, the people's belongings from dishes to pots and pans were impounded and taken to the cooperatives. Therefore, if the CPP wins, it pledges that no such wholesale confiscation as from 1975 to 1979 will be tolerated.

At present, though they are yet to win the elections, certain parties have already made the threat that if they win they will take back their houses; if they win, they will take back their land; if they win, they will nullify all business contracts, including both contracts with foreign firms and contracts of local companies or private groups in commerce, industry, handicrafts, services, and so on. They have not yet won the elections but they have alreay made these threats. If they win, the situation will become very confused.

So long as the CPP—the sole party which along with the Cambodian people has been active in rebuilding Cambodia—and CPP leaders remain in power, the schools, the monasteries that have popped up like mushrooms will not be destroyed; the people's private belongings such as homes, bicycles, motorcycles, automobiles, other material goods, cattle, and carts will be taken away by nobody.

If these two issues are guaranteed, meaning that our existence is guaranteed and our property insured, there will be guarantees for our lives, our political stability, and societal survival, a guarantee for each family and each individual. The CPP has a amuch better chance of guaranteeing these two issues, if it wins the elections. This party has the greatest potential of improving the situation, to allow the nation a better kind of peace. In underlining that we will have a better kind of peace, I want to say that the the Khmer Rouge will continue to attack us but there will not be a civil war. This is because after the elections there will be a legal government and the Khmer Rouge will become full-fledged bandits or insurgents, enabling us to destroy them here and there. This will not be a war despite instances of Khmer Rouge attacks and raids. These will only be simple acts of banditry as part of the crimes perpetrated by rebels and insurgents. Therefore, there will be a better peace, better security than ever before, and foreign aid will reach us in all sectors. We certainly will have the ability to handle the situation because we already have the experience of braving the worst predicaments over the past 14 years, especially in 1979 and 1980. I want to say that the situation now is much better than the one in 1979 and 1980. It is very, very different.

In 1979 and 1980 there were so many orphans and hungry people roaming the country in their efforts to return to their hometowns in order to set up new residences and to find employment. It was very much more difficult than now. In just a little more than 14 years, everything has happened in the form of public and private property. We started from rubble, heaps of ashes, war, and a state of total deprivation, working our way with bare hands, from scratch, in a no-war and no-peace situation. But in just 14 years we have achieved so much. Therefore, henceforth on the existing basis this party has the ability to advance because it is unlike other parties.

I would like to tell all of you, venerable monks and compatriots, that a number of parties have said that if they win they will dismantle and build anew. This reminds us of the polpotist regime which tried to wipe out anything that was reminiscent of the old society and replace it with a new one. That was what we experienced. They confiscated land and placed them with cooperatives. Anything that they called dregs of the old society was scrapped and rebuilt upon. They dismantled the big houses and used the material to build smaller ones and they called that process 'reconstruction'. As for the CPP, it builds upon existing foundations in order to expand and improve the situation. This party has all the potential to grow because it has a concrete policy and is in possession of real resources to implement that policy. The party is in a position to do that because of objective factors: the war has ended; peace is being promoted; security has improved; and foreign aid is arriving. It is unlike other parties.

It is better for us to start from existing foundations. This is better than dismantling the existing foundations, destroying the old in order to build the new. Our regime would be considered the old again if other parties win; they will eliminate the old regime in order to build a new one and the property and belongings currently held by the people will not be recognized. It is undeniable that that situation will make them evacuate the people from the cities or from one place to another. Automobiles, motorcycles, cyclos, bicycles, jewels, and other goods will again be confiscated.

Therefore, the CPP which is based on guaranteeing the above two issues, is certainly capable of leading the country through a situation that will not be any more difficult than the situation in 1979 and 1980 or the situation in 1989 and 1990 after the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops. We have a lot of potential. And we will be able to solve the remaining problems that have not yet been solved, such as some negative phenomena, because we will proceed in a stable situation and because we have already overcome and solved many difficult situations, many twists and turns, and many complex situations for our people. We surely will be able to overcome again. Our infrastructure, our 150,000 civil servants trained for the past 14 years, will be even more capable of advancing. They are far better than the polpotist leaders or certain bandit chieftains who are ready to take over the posts of provincial and district governors or officials at this or that level if they win the elections.

The CPP has set forth many projects to be undertaken on the basis of the existing foundations, as explained above. Particularly regarding the peasantry, our CPP has many plans to assist the livelihood of the peasants. The rural development policy, the policy of providing assistance to the peasants is a priority in the party's platform. Of course, this does not mean that we ignore urban development. However, our country is an agricultural nation relying mainly on agricultural production and populated mostly with peasants. Therefore, over the past years we concentrated our efforts on dealing with agricultural reform, trying to settle problems for the peasantry.

Let us talk about schooling. Let us compare with previous societies. Not going too far back into the past; when I was a kid it was hard to find a school. Most regions only had primary schools. When children reached the age for secondary education, there were no schools for them. Now, in order to develop the countryside, in order to raise the knowledge of peasants, in the past few years, there have been so many schools around every village and commune. Even the remotest has a school. The Cambodian compatriots can see this with their own eyes. Where there was no primary schoool in the past, now it has; where there was no secondary school in the past, now there is, allowing the children to come and get an education. This is the party policy that has already been carried out.

Now, the CPP has worked out many projects in order to help the peasantry advance toward prosperity and to reduce the gap between the city and the countryside.

So far, the question of land ownership has already been settled. The compatriots have first-hand knowledge about the polpotists seizing their land. Under the Pol Pot regime, the people were denied their right to own land and homes. During the difficult period, the CPP fully met the aspirations of the people regarding the question of land ownership and the methods of agricultural production. What remains to be settled now is how and what to do, so the peasants and producers can produce and get the best yield and the greatest benefits. The problem is here: our people now have their own land and can enjoy private ownership, but their agricultural yield remains very low. That has been the main concern of the party and government. If we win, we will continue to tackle this problem. It will not be settled soon but it is both the immediate and long-term objective: what we should do and how we should do it to enable peasants to get high yields and make big profits.

The price policy has already been put into effect. It is a policy that relies on the marketplace with a price-supporting committee set up to avoid underpricing and price cutting by buyers. The free circulation of the people's farm products has been taking place within limits nationwide. The reduction in taxation and the lifting of taxation altogether on the import of agricultural equipment have been implemented over the past many years. This will continue to be implemented so that the companies importing these farm tools can sell them at a low price to the peasants. For example, a water pump with customs duty may be sold to the people at 50,000 riel. But the same duty-free pump can be sold at only 40,000 riel. This is the assistance the party has given to the people. It is called indirect assistance. Another example of this is the party and the government have the policy of encouraging any handicraft industry that produces farm tools and equipment used in processing farm products, so that our farm products can be processed and exported at a high profit. Those who produce farm tools, such as plows, plowshares, or other equipment related to agriculture are encouraged to sell them to peasants at low prices. In order to make this possible, the state must reduce taxes and create facilitating conditions for such a handicraft-industry to a certain degree that would let them to profit and sell cheaply to the people. Such an assistance is not visible to the people because it is indirect assistance.

Allow me to add that if the CPP wins, this party will retain the policy of not raising tax on agricultural land for five to 10 more years. I would like to tell you that there is no country in the world that does not impose a land tax, apart from Cambodia. The International Monetary Fund, when it came to work in Cambodia, asked us about Cambodia's incomes. I told them our revenue comes from various sources but not from land tax. They asked how much we collected in land taxes. I told them we do not collect tax from the peasants. They were very surprised. They asked why a country with such a poor government did not impose a tax on land. We told them it was true no country in the world withheld from imposing land taxes and that in Cambodia no regime had kept from doing so. From the French protectorate to the time of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk's Sangkum Reas Niyum, the people had to pay land tax to the state. Only the Pol Pot regime did not collect taxes. This was because all the land was under collective ownership and all that the peasants produced was taken away. There was no need to pay taxes since the state seized every grain.

As far as we are concerned, from 1979 to 1984 we did not collect taxes. From 1984 to 1988, because of the absence of any law on the imposition of land taxes, we collected taxes in the form of patriotic contributions proportional to the yield of the people's land. However, since 1988 on behalf of the party and government I signed a ministerial order, a decision not to impose land tax. Why did we make that decision? The party examined the issue and found out that we needed to directly assist the peasants. Our decision is not meant to deceive the people, and we made it long before the advent of the various rival parties in 1991, 1992, or 1993. We made the decision since 1988 because we understood that not imposing these taxes meant direct assistance to the peasantry. For example, if in one year the peasant must pay 10,000 riel in tax for one hectare of his land, he would save 10,000 riel because the state does not collect the taxes. At least, he could save that money and use it to buy school uniforms or a bicycle for his children or a sow or cow for breeding for a better life. Many years have passed since 1988. If the CPP wins, we will continue to refrain from collecting land taxes for another five to 10 years, that is, as of 1993. This means the party will reconsider whether to impose taxes or not only in 1998 or 2003. But the question now is whether the CPP wins or not. If we do not win, I will not be able to protect the interests of our peasants on the land tax.

I would like to reiterate that no country, no regime—except the Pol Pot regime—has withheld from imposing a land tax. Only the SOC regime, only present-day Cambodia has not imposed tax on agricultural land. If the state collected land taxes, in my estimate, we could have paid at least an additional month's salary to every soldier, policeman, and functionary. But the party considers the nonimposition of taxes as direct assistance to the peasantry. Therefore, the party has helped the peasantry indirectly by not imposing or reducing customs duty on farm tools and in the handicraft-industry that produces farm tools, and directly by building more schools, hospitals, roads, monasteries, dams, or canals. Moreover, the party has also directly helped them by not imposing a land tax.

Besides, we also have a policy of sharing social labor. I know very well that currently there is a problem between the densely populated regions with little land, and the sparsely populated and vast regions. In the land-scarce regions families keep growing. There are more marriages in each village. Two to five couples marry each year from a single family and they cannot get enough land to work on. In such a situation, the CPP promotes the construction of infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, roads, and so on, to encourage our people to live in the vast regions. It also creates conditions for them to occupy and exploit the land. Therefore, we continue with this policy. We however are resolutely opposed to the polpotist policy of transferring people from one locality to another. What is important now is to work hard to prepare the material and infrastructure to encourage people to live in the vast regions and exploit land there.

For this reason, over the past few years many regions which were once deserted have now been gradually inhabited by people who are exploiting multi-hectare tracts of land.

I stress here a number of issues concerning the party's policy. I would like to reconfirm that no party is more sincere, stays closer to the Cambodian land, and lives nearer the people than the CPP. There is no other party.

At the same time, many of us used to say that when they were on the brink of death in the time of Pol Pot they did not see any other party but the CPP. That is absolutely true. When our people were suffering so much under the Pol Pot regime, the leaders of most other parties lived in peace and happiness abroad. When we were suffering most acutely, hungry and miserable, working from scratch to rebuild the country, the leaders of most other parties lived abroad and many of them joined Pol Pot to undermine our country.

Now, implementing the peace agreement that was made possible thanks to our concessions—I would like to stress that it was made possible because we agreed to sign it and make concessions—other parties can come to Phnom Penh or be present in the provinces and cities. We are not opposed to their propaganda making. We only want the people to think it over. I do not want to see my compatriots being duped just as they were once duped by Lon Nol or Pol Pot. I raise this question to prevent that problem. There is no other correct party besides the CPP.

I have already said that this party is not perfect. It has some blemishes; it makes some mistakes. That is unavoidable. Some methods, some activities, or some individual party members may have been wrong. Some may have misbehaved. But we have tried to solve these problems gradually. We have even expelled a number of ministers from our ranks. It is, however, very ludicrous that some who have accused our government, our party of not being good have accepted as their own ministers those whom we kicked out of our ranks because of corruption or because they had harmed the interests of the people. They have also selected gamblers and robbers released from jail to be their party members.

Several parties are competing with one another in glorifying themselves, in claiming to be good. However, nothing specific has been seen about their goodness. We have heard their claims over the PR system or seen them in print only.

But the people, the compatriots have already seen a lot of the CPP. You have seen its strengths and shortcomings. And we have been gradually correcting these shortcomings. I would like to cite an old Cambodian saying: "Upon hearing thunder, do not rush to get rid of water in the [bamboo] trough." This is an old Cambodian proverb known to our Cambodian people, men and women, young and old. This has a very important meaning.

Upon hearing thunder, do not rush to pour water out of the trough because it is not certain that rain will follow. The water in the trough is indeed old but if we boil it to kill germs, we can use it. At the very least, it can be used to wash our faces or make tea temporarily; temporarily not in the sense that it is transitional, because this is an issue concerning the lives of the nation and the people.

We have already come across this event. Lon Nol's thunder. Upon hearing Lon Nol's shout, we got rid of Prince Sihanouk, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk. No rains followed; that is, Lon Nol did not do anything good. At the Khmer Rouge's promise, Lon Nol was abandoned. However, Khmer Rouge rains did not come as expected. Instead we became victims.

Now these same people are here again making promises. Thunder again. Therefore, compatriots, think about the sentence "Upon hearing thunder, do not rush to get rid of water in the trough." The water in the trough is indeed old but it can still be used because our party, despite some shortcomings, has not deserted the compatriots; it will stay here to share weal and woe with the compatriots. The best choice for all levels of our party's leaders is to live and die with the people.

I have no passport for fleeing abroad; even if I had one I would not flee because I have never deserted the people since the hardest times. I cannot desert the people at this stage. Although I am very tired, I have received sympathy from the people and compatriots for my excessively hard work. I have to continue making sacrifices, even if I must die.

However, the most important thing is the lives of compatriots and the entire Cambodian nation. This is the issue I would like to point out. The reason for doing this is that we cannot cast two votes. If we want a new party we must abandon the old one. If we want new water, we must pour out the old water from the trough in order to have room for the new water. If we got rid of the old water and the rains did not come, what would happen? This would be like the proverb "The rabbit got away and so did the fish" [saying based on a Cambodian story in which a person tried to trap two creatures using one trapping device but lost both in the end].

Finally, I would like to raise a point on the elections. Voting for the CPP is voting for oneself and nobody else. Voting for the CPP is voting for yourself. This is because under the CPP leadership, you are the one contributing to toppling the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Our people should be proud of cooperating with the CPP under the latter's leadership to ged rid of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. It is our people and compatriots who have contributed to liberation from the genocidal regime. Therefore, in the election it is voting for oneself.

Under the CPP's leadership, you are the one contributing to reviving the people and nation with your bare hands; the party could not have done this alone without the cooperation of each person, each family, each village, each commune, each district, and each province throughout the nation. Thus, a vote for the party under the party's leadership is a vote for the one who has saved you. Voting for the CPP is voting for the one who helped revive you. Voting for the CPP is voting for the one defending you for the past more than 14 years.

In short, voting for the CPP is voting for oneself because we are the ones who have done all the work. We did everything: getting rid of and opposing Pol Pot and bringing about revival for 14 years. Thus, voting for the CPP is voting for oneself.

Another point. Voting for the CPP is voting for one's future. This is because the CPP has the ability, competence, and will to oppose the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Our future is still threatened by Pol Pot. Therefore, voting for the CPP is certainly contributing to preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime because the CPP has the ability, competence, and will to oppose the genocidal Pol Pot regime in the future. Voting for the CPP will enable the latter to assist other parties to ensure that the current ownership and social and national gains are preserved.

So, voting for the CPP is voting to protect one own's wealth and protect what we have done; it is nothing other than this. If you do not want your wealth, house, land, and jewelry confiscated, vote for the CPP. It is a vote to protect one own's wealth. Voting for the CPP will enable it to even lead the country toward progress in a situation in which there is peace, national reconciliation, and wide international cooperation. This is because the CPP has the ability to do all these difficult jobs. This is not as difficult as in 1979-80. Of course it is difficult, but there are possibilities to do the job because we have various structures and policies for moving forward.

Voting for the CPP is providing a clear guarantee for one own's life, ownership, job, and rights in the future; it is nothing other than this. Voting for the CPP is voting for our own lives. It is voting for the continuation of legitimate ownership and to guarantee our current jobs as civil servants, soldiers, policemen, teachers, professors, engineers, merchants, traders, and other professions. It is to guarantee the jobs we have and to prevent ourselves from being chased to other places like in 1975.

Voting for the CPP is guaranteeing the freedom we are now enjoying; it is nothing else. In short, it is voting for our own lives, ownership, and freedom. Therefore, we should vote for the CPP.

Another point I would like to stress is that voting for the CPP is like making merit to remember the souls of those who died in the Pol Pot regime or those who were killed by the Pol Pot group in the past. When these people died, nothing was left to us except suffering, family separation, and all sorts of hardship. Before they died these people thought about getting angels' help for their children and those who survived to escape from maltreatment and massacre. Therefore, since the election campaign and post-election dates coincide with the new year and the day of hatred toward the genocidal Pol Pot regime, voting for the CPP is like performing a religious ceremony in remembrance of those who painfully perished and called on later generations and those who survived to continue preventing this genocidal regime from returning.

I firmly believe that the clergy and compatriots will place hope and confidence in the CPP, in His Excellency

[H.E.] Heng Samrin, H.E. Chea Sim, and myself, and on the real capability of the CPP to lead the country toward progress and peace.

On behalf of the party, I pledge to compatriots to make all kinds of sacrifices for the cause of the survival of the nation, the motherland, and the Cambodian people; the survival and continued existence of Buddhism and other religions in Cambodia; the preservation of what we have built; and the survival of the country and the motherland with independence, territorial integrity, sovereignty, freedom, democracy, and progress.

I would like to thank compatriots in advance for their votes for the CPP, for myself, and for H.E. Heng Samrin and H.E. Chea Sim through the vote for the CPP, whose emblem is an angel showering flowers.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the clergy and compatriots the five Buddhist blessings. May the new year's angel help our compatriots, and bring peace, national reconciliation, and development in the future. Thank you.

Sin Song Receives Thai Interior Minister

BK2903030293 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 24 March at the office of the National Security Ministry, His Excellency [H.E.] General Sin Song, national security minister, cordially held talks with H.E. General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, interior minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Speaking on the occasion, H.E. Sin Song pointed out that this is the first time the State of Cambodia [SOC] government has received a delegation from the Royal Thai Government and considers the visit by the Thai Interior Ministry delegation as strengthening and expanding the relations between the two countries' police. H.E. General Sin Song also informed the delegation that the SOC police is a neutral force in the implementation of the peace agreement and that it has protected the offices of various parties to ensure safety and social order.

Replying, H.E. General Chawalit Yongchaiyut expressed his great appreciation of the results achieved by the SOC government despite shortcomings. He stressed that the Royal Thai Government will do what it can to contribute to returning peace and security to the Cambodian people and that the Royal Thai Government and the Thai people will always support the correct stance of the SOC.

Sar Kheng Receives Chawalit

BK2903030193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 24 March at the office of the Interior Ministry, His Excellency [H.E.] Sar Kheng, member of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee standing committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and interior minister, held talks with the delegation from the Interior Ministry of the Kingdom of Thailand led by H.E. General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, interior minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

On this occasion H.E. Sar Kheng cordially welcomed the delegation members and informed them about the implementation of the peace agreement in Cambodia by the State of Cambodia [SOC]. Despite the Khmer Rouge side's refusal to take part in this process, the SOC continues to be patient and cooperate with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to move toward the constituent assembly elections as planned.

H.E. Sar Kheng expressed profound thanks and gratitude to the Royal Thai Government for its assistance, support, and contribution to the search for peace in Cambodia.

Replying H.E. Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut expressed great thanks to the SOC Government for creating conditions enabling the delegation to visit Cambodia. He said like all members of the delegation, he has witnessed the great achievements scored by the SOC. H.E. Chawalit Yongchaiyut highly appreciated the SOC for its efforts to implement the Paris peace agreement to end the Cambodian people's suffering and to bring peace to its citizens and motherland.

Indonesia

Paper Profiles New Cabinet Ministers

BK2803094793 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 18 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)— New Minister of Defense and Security General Edi Sudrajat has the unique distinction of holding three government posts concurrently in the cabinet line-up announced last night. Two ministers, Abdul Latif, the minister of manpower, and Hayono Isman, a young businessman appointed minister of youth affairs and sports, come from the business community.

Gen. Edi, who was inducted Armed Forces (ABRI) commander last month, is expected to continue to hold the post but will likely relinquish the position of army chief of staff, which he has held since 1988.

The four-star general of the elite Kopassandha [Special Mission Troop Command (Army)] paratrooper unit was born in Jambi, Sumatera, on April 22, 1938. He graduated from the National Military Academy in 1960 and within 21 years he achieved the post of regional military commander in Sumatera. He rose quickly through military ranks in the following years.

Abdul Latif is widely respected as a successful businessman in Jakarta. The owner of the Sarinah Jaya group, he is founder and first chairman of the Indonesian Young Businessmen's Association.

He was born in Banda Aceh on April 27, 1940, and started his business career without any assistance from the government.

Hayono Isman is among the least known and youngest of the new ministers. The president of PT [Company Limited] Elmi Perdana also holds posts on various other companies of the Kosgoro group. Hayono, 35, is a 1976 graduate of New Hampshire College in the United States. Other members of the Isman family are also active in business.

Mar'ie Muhammad, the much-quoted director general of taxes is the new finance minister. The former Moslem student activist, who was born in Surabaya on April 3, 1939, is known for his modest lifestyle. A graduate of the School of Economics of the University of Indonesia, he held a variety of jobs in the House of Representatives and state-owned companies before his appointment as director general of taxes in 1988.

Minister of Home Affairs Yogi Suardi Memet, the governor of West Java since 1985, was born on May 16, 1929 in Cirebon, a large coastal town in the province.

A devout Moslem and eloquent preacher, Yogi joined the army during the revolutionary war for independence from the Dutch colonial administration. He subsequently took part in several military operations to crush the Moslem secessionist rebels who were attempting to set up an Islamic state in the fledgling republic.

He enjoyed rapid promotion in the army fast and he had attained the rank of lieutenant general when he was appointed provincial governor. He is married to Emmy Sariamah and they have two children. Under Yogi's governorship, West Java was awarded the coveted "Parasamya Purnakarya Nugraha", the citation for the nation's province which has made the greatest development progress.

Minister of Tourism, Post and Telecommunications Joop Ave was the director general of tourism of the ministry prior to his appointment yesterday.

Born in Yogyakarta on December 5, 1934, Joop graduated from a Dutch colonial high school and the Academy of Foreign Affairs in 1957.

After working for state radio system RRI [Radio Republik Indonesia] for several years, he was appointed consul general in New York and was later made chief of protocol at the presidential palace.

Joop's command of French, English and Dutch is equal to his Indonesian.

Jamaludin Suryohadikusumo, the new minister of forestry, has 35 years of experience in the field. His former post was director general of forest exploitation. Jamaludin was born in the East Java town of Lumajang on October 11, 1934, and is a graduate of the University of Gajah Mada in Yogyakarta.

Ibrahim Hasan, the minister of food production and head of the National Logistics Agency (Bulog), is not a newcomer to his job. He is former deputy chairman of the Logistics Agency and conducted research on food distribution as part of his doctoral degree at the University of Indonesia School of Economics.

The 58-year-old economist who also did post-graduate study at Syracuse University in New York state, was reelected unopposed as Aceh governor last year.

Minister of Cooperatives Subiakto Cakrawerdaja was born in Cilacap on August 30, 1944. An old hand in cooperatives affairs, Subiakto, a graduate of the School of Economics of privately-run Indonesian Christian University in Jakarta, was a director general for cooperatives development.

A father of three, Subiakto has written a number of articles on cooperatives development in both rural and urban areas for various local magazines and newspapers.

He has taken several courses on leadership and managerial skills, including one held by the Institute of National Defense in 1986.

The appointment of Lieutenant General Ida Bagus Sujana as new minister of mines and energy stands out as one of the biggest surprises in the new cabinet. He is a successful military officer who holds the post of secretary-general of the ministry of defense and security. The general, 55, a native of Bali, graduated from the military academy in 1960. The first major post he held in the military service was commander of the West Kalimantan Military Command from 1982 to 1984.

The Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) has also been raised in status into a ministry. Its chairman since 1988, Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo, is the minister. He was born in Purwokerto, Central Java, into a noble family, and like Ibrahim Hasan, was educated at Syracuse University. He worked for the Ministry of Industry upon his return to Indonesia in 1962. In 1984 he was transferred to the State Secretariat.

The National Land Agency has also been upgraded into a ministry. The minister is the agency chief Sony Harsono, 63. The National Land Agency was formerly called the Directorate General of Agrarian Reforms. Land issues are among the most complex problems Indonesia faces today.

Minister of State for Administrative Reforms Major General T.B. Silalahi held several key positions in the military before assuming his present post.

Born in 1940, Silalahi graduated from the national military academy in 1961. He attended several courses on chemical and nuclear warfare, military leadership and the army staff command course.

In 1985 he was appointed chief-of-staff of the Diponegoro Military Command of Central Java.

The National Family Planning Coordinating Board has been upgraded into a ministry and its chairman Haryono Suyono is the minister. Haryono has led the body for 10 Years. He was born in the East Java town of Pacitan on May 6, 1938, and graduated from the University of Chicago in 1971. He received a doctoral degree from the U.S. university the following year.

Suyudi, the new minister of health, is rector of the University of Indonesia, Jakarta. He studied at the Department of Medical Microbiology of Stanford University in California before he continued his study at the University of Indonesia Medical School, where he received his doctorate degree in 1972. Born in Bogor, 60 kilometers south of here, on September 9, 1930, he is known among his colleagues and students for his dry wit.

Utoyo Usman, the new minister of justice is a graduate of the University of Indonesia Law School. As an activist of the government backed political grouping Golkar, he has paid serious attention to upholding the supremacy of the law. Utoyo who was born in Jakarta on June 3, 1937, said during the electoral campaign last year that the development of law would be expected to help overcome problems in many other fields, especially in the domains of economy and technology.

Utojo is now chairman of the Pancasila Propagation Agency (BP-7), a position he has held since 1987.

Tarmizi Taher, the longtime secretary-general of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, has been appointed to replace his minister Munawir Syadzali. Tarmizi, a navy rear admiral and medical doctor, was born in Padang, West Sumatra, on October 7, 1936.

Minister for Women's Roles Mien Sugandhi is widely known to the Indonesian public for her activities in various women's organizations, in which she has worked hard to show the contribution of women in labor.

Born in Magelang on October 6, 1934, Mien graduated from the Academy of Foreign Languages in 1975. Her late husband, Major General R.H. Sugandhi, was a former aide to the first Indonesian President Sukarno.

Mien is an adept fashion designer who helped set up the Association of Indonesian Beauticians.

More on Profiles of New Cabinet Ministers

BK2803105593 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 19 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The appointment of Dr. Wardiman Joyonegoro, a deputy chairman of the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT) as the new Minister for Education and Culture is expected to improve the national education policy.

BPPT Chairman B.J. Habibie, who is also the State Minister for Research and Technology, had once strongly criticized Fuad Hassan Wardiman's predecessor, for his education policy. That's why many expect that the presence of Wardiman, 58, as the education ministry's top man would bring much improvement to the education policy.

Wardiman was among the 41 members of the sixth cabinet announced by President Suharto Wednesday night.

Born in Pamekasan, Madura, East Java, Wardiman graduated from senior high school in Surabaya in 1953. He obtained a Diploma Ingineur degree from the Aachen Institute of Technology, Germany, in 1962. He gained a doctoral degree in technology from the Delft Institute of Technology, the Netherlands, 13 years later.

Known for his hobby of doing research, Wardiman was a rector of the Indonesian Institute of Technology from 1987 and 1989 and a member of the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) from 1992 until now. He is an active member of the Indonesian Engineers' Association and an executive secretary of the Indonesian Moslem Intellectuals' Association (ICMI).

As a coordinator for the human resources development project at BPPT, Wardiman has sent some 2,500 people on scholarships program to study various fields of science and technology.

Endang K. Intan Suweno, 49, the new minister for social services, started her organizational activities by joining Dharma Pertiwi, the organization for the wives of the Armed Forces members, in 1975.

Intan, who was born in Tulungagung, East Java, married Major Suweno from the Ammy's elite troop RPKAD in 1967, only about four months after they became acquainted with each other.

The third child of seven children of Brigadier General (retired) Kusen Hirohusodo, Intan was elected as a member of the House of Representatives from the ruling Golkar faction for the 1987/92 period. She was re-elected as the House member for the ongoing 1992/1997 period.

She has an artificial right hand, the result of an accident in her residence in Kebon Jeruk, West Jakarta, in 1979.

Minister of Trade Satrio Budiarjo Judono 52, was an assistant for industry, mining and energy to the coordinating minister for economy, finance and industry in the prevous cabinet. Satrio graduated from the school of economy of the University of Indonesia [UI] in 1963.

He obtained his doctoral degree from the State University of New York in Albany in 1971.

He is also a member of the National Research Council and a professor at UI's School of Economy. He [is] married to Ani Chaerani.

Dr. Haryanto Dhanutirto the minister of transportation, was formerly a deputy for the assessment of basic and applied sciences to the chairman of the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPI) .

Born in Purwokerto, Central Java, Haryanto, 55, had once worked as a lecturer at the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB). Graduating from senior high school in 1958, he finished his study in the department of pharmacy at ITB in 1967.

He served as a senior researcher at BPPT from 1983 and 1987 and an expert staff of the state minister for research and technology from 1986 and 1987.

Alatas Holds Talks With German Minister 28 Mar

BK2803154493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] The Federal Republic of Germany will raise the wish of President Suharto, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], to address the G-7 [Group of Seven] summit during the G-7 foreign and finance ministers meeting in Tokyo, Japan from 14 to 15 April 1993. German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel reiterated the Bonn government's willingness to do so during 45-minute talks with Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in Jakarta today. Kinkel said Germany realized the importance of the NAM taking part in the G-7 summit and was deeply sympathetic to the NAM chairman's wish.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said during a news conference in Jakarta this afternoon that Indonesia highly hoped that Germany would be more active in investment because Germany still had the huge potential to take part in Indonesia's development projects. Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel responded positively to the Indonesian Government's hope. Several German industrialists have already seen the possibility.

On the Cambodian issue, Minister Ali Alatas said Germany supported the UN Security Council resolution on Cambodia that ratified the Paris accords as well as various efforts by the EC to rehabilitate Cambodia. However, Minister Ali Alatas admitted that the implementation of the Paris accords was facing worrisome difficulties; for example, the unwillingness of Democratic Kampuchea or the Khmer Rouge to join the process of settling the conflict on the basis of the Paris accords.

Colonel Suntoro Appointed Military Chief for Dili

BK2503144993 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 16 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Dili (JP)—Commander of Udayana Military Command Suwardi installed Colonel Suntoro as the new commander of Dili military resort replacing Colonel Dunija.

Suntoro is former assistant of intelligence of the Udayana Regional Military Command which covers Bali, East Nusa Tenggara and East Timor. Dunija had been promoted to a position in the National Defense Agency (Lemhanas) in Jakarta.

Among those attending the ceremony were vice governor of East Timor J. Haribowo and Chief of the East Timor Field Operation Brigadier General Theo Syafie.

Laos

Prime Minister To Lead Delegation to SRV

BK2603122493 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Mar 93

["Press release" of the Foreign Affairs Ministry—date not given]

[Text] In response to an invitation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and the Government of the SRV, a high-level delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and the state of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], led by Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee and prime minister of the LPDR, will pay an official friendship visit to the SRV soon.

Premier Issues National Medical Policy Decree

BK2603104593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 26 Mar 93

["Decree" issued by Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon approving the National Medical Policy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; dated 13 March]

[Text] Based on the party and government line and policy on public health strategy in the new era to encourage public awareness in the development of necessary domestic medicines and the correct use of such medicines; based on Resolution No. 31/CM dated 2 May 1989 of the Council of Ministers on the management and control of export, import, production, and distribution of medicines for curing diseases and distribution of medicinal materials; and based on the Ministry of Public Health's proposal No. 1228/MPH dated 1 December 1992, the prime minister hereby issues a decree as follows:

Article 1: The National Medical Policy of the LPDR, which was adopted and passed by the Fourth National Medical Conference on 18 November 1992, is hereby approved.

Article 2: A National Medical Policy Committee is hereby established comprising members from the ministries and organizations concerned as follows: 1. two members from the Ministry of Public Health, one as committee chairman and one as secretary;

2. one member from the Planning and Cooperation Board;
3. one member from the Ministry of Justice;
4. one member from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare;
5. one member from the Ministry of Trade;
6. one member from the Ministry of Interior;
7. one member from the Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts;
8. one member from the Ministry of Information and Culture;
9. one member from the Ministry of Finance;

10. one member from the Central Committee of the Federation of Lao Women's Unions.

Article 3: The role, responsibilities, rights, and duties of the National Medical Policy Committee are as follows:

Role:

1) Study, improve, and enforce the national policy on medicine for each period in conformity with the practical conditions in the country and the world;

2) Supervise, control, and follow up the implementation of the said policy.

Rights and duties:

1) Appoint or dissolve subcommittees in charge of various works of the National Medicine Policy Committee when deemed appropiate;

2) Consider the setting up of various associations of medical professionals;

3) Call a meeting of various subcommittees and associations that have been set up.

Article 4: The abbreviation fc: the National Medical Policy Committee of the LPDF is NMPC. Its coordination office is situated in the Medical Department of the Ministry of Public Health.

Article 5: This decree is effective as of the date of signing.

Peace Committee Head Views Asia-Pacific Meeting

BK2603134193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Singkapo Sikhotchounlamali, chairman of the Lao Committee for Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship with Various Nations and head of the committee delegation, returned from Vietnam after attending a regional conference on peace, cooperation, and development for the Asia-Pacific region. The conference was organized by the Vietnamese federation of peace, solidarity, and friendship organizations in Hanoi from 19 to 21 March. Mr Singkapo gave his views on the conference. He said: The regional conference is very significant as it has strengthened mutual understanding among the peoples of the region. It has also encouraged people to promote cooperation for peace and development among the nations in the region.

He noted: The conference was held at a time when the world is changing rapidly and in a complicated manner. The old international order of the cold war has ended, while a new international order has yet to emerge. Many countries are also in confrontation while new challenges are developing. Nevertheless, rapid economic development in the Asia-Pacific region in the previous years have brought about many favorable conditions and factors. These have enabled the people there to coordinate their efforts for peace, cooperation, and development on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Singkapo Sikhotchounlamali also reiterated that there is high economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region presently, compared to other regions of the world. This is a result of its favorable geographical conditions and its great potential. This rapid development is expected to continue at a certain rate in the future. In light of this, it is urgent that all countries in the Asia- Pacific region maintain peace and cooperation and carry out development together.

The conference was attended by delegates from 13 Asia-Pacific countries and from the World Peace Council. In addition to the situation in the Asia-Pacific region and the problems of peace and cooperation in various fields, the delegates discussed the roles of the Nonaligned Movement as well as the United Nations in contributing to the effective establishment of peace under the new circumstances.

Philippines

Radio Reviews Thai Premier's State Visit

HK2603123893 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Excerpt] (Abhisit Vihajiva), spokesperson of Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, along with Press Secretary Rodolfo Reyes and several Department of Foreign Affairs officials, held a news conference before members of the press at the Manila Hotel. The news conference marks the end of the Thai prime minister's three-day state visit which began on 24 March. Abhisit thanked the Philippine Government and its people for their hospitality. He said the prime minister's visit reciprocates for President Ramos' visit to Thailand last December and was part of his country's efforts to look for investment opportunities in the Philippines. He also said they are very interested in investing in the various areas they visited, especially Subic.

[Begin (Abhisit) recording, in English] The prime minister was accompanied by members of the cabinet, members of the Thai parliament, senior officials, and leading private sector executives, including leaders of the federation of Thai industries, the Thai banking association, and the Thai Board of Trade.

Consultations were held on a wide range of bilateral and regional issues, and discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation, reflecting the traditional cordial relation between the two countries. Present at the discussions were the two leaders, the members of their respective cabinets, high-ranking officials, and members of the Thai parliament, and opportunities were given to the private sector representatives to participate in the discussions.

The two heads of government informed each other of the political and economic developments in their respective countries. They briefed each other on their recent discussions with other heads of government on regional and international issues of mutual interest, particularly on ways to accelerate regional economic cooperation.

The two heads of government exchanged views on regional and international developments since their last meeting in Bangkok in December 1992. They discussed the situation in Cambodia, Myanmar, and the progress towards the achievement of AFTA [Asia-Pacific Free Trade Agreement], as well as other regional and subregional economic cooperations.

We [word indistinct] with satisfaction the progress in bilateral relations between the two countries since their last meeting. We were gratified that senior officials of the two governments have met to identify ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in such areas as agriculture, science, technology, cultural exchanges, choice in [word indistinct], and choice in investment.

The two leaders reiterated their government's desire to double the volume of trade in three to five years, and to increase the volume of trade, they agreed to consider the exchange of commodities such as rice, fertilizer, and possibly others, on terms and conditions to be negotiated at a mutually agreeable time. And to ensure the fluid implementation of the various areas of cooperation, the two leaders directed a joint commission, which is headed by their respective foreign ministers, to finalize, at their first meeting in August, a program for cooperation, including the feasibility of establishing an investment consortium or growth triangle involving other countries, as well as other modes of bilateral cooperation.

The two leaders also emphasized the role of the private sector in bilateral economic cooperation, and President Ramos invited the Thai business sector to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and other incentives given by the Philippine government to companies investing in the Philippines. Prime Minister Chuan, himself, fully supports Thai businessmen's interest in investing in the Philippines.

During the visit, Prime Minister Chuan was also conferred the ancient Order of Sikatuna, rank of Raja, by President Ramos, and received an honorary degree of Doctor of Law from the University of the Philippines.

He also visited Correigidor Island and had discussions with the president and members of the Senate and the speaker and members of the House of Representatives.

He was honored by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry with a luncheon, which was attended by Philippine business leaders. Members of the private sector in the delegation visited the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and held discussions with their Philippine counterparts.

After the discussions, the two governments also signed an agreement on tourism cooperation. The agreement aims to establish a bigger share in the world tourist trade through joint program, exchanges of information, and facilitate promotional activities.

The two heads of government recognized that frequent exchanges between officials and private sector representatives of the two countries contribute significantly to the development of closer bilateral cooperation, to the further strengthening of the existing friendly relations between the government and the people of the two countries, and encouraged their officials and private sector representatives to continue these exchanges for mutual benefit. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Japan Releases Calaca Power Plant Loan

HK2903043093 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 29 Mar 93 p 11

[Text] The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund [OECF] of Japan has finally approved the release of 14.67 billion Japanese yen to the two contractors of the long-delayed 300-megawatt Calaca-2 coal-fired power plant. President Ramos and Japanese Ambassador Hirokazu Arai will lead the groundbreaking rites today for the coal led power plant in Batangao.

In a March 24 notice to outgoing National Power Corporation [Napocor] president Pablo Malixi, Hideo Tanaka, OECF chief representative, said his office has "no objection" to the contract with Marubeni Corporation and GEC [expansion unknown] Alsthom, contractors for the Calaca power project. Tanaka added that the 14.67 billion yen was ready for disbursement, part of the $320- million loan the Napocor has been seeking from the Japanese government for the Calaca facility.

The OECF earlier withheld the release of the loan due to pressure from non-governmental organizations and socialist parliamentarians in Japan's Imperial Diet, who learned of the adverse local write-ups on the Calaca plant's impact on the environment. Despite the earlier visit of Mr. Ramos to Japan, there was no news on the release of the Calaca loan.

A source told the Chronicle the OECF has verbally agreed to the loan release but asked that no publicity be made on it. The source said the Japanese government feared that oppositors from the Imperial Diet would be able to mobilize their resources before the March 29 groundbreaking ceremony. The Calaca power plant has been in the Philippine Power Development Program since 1986. It is designed to run on local coal with daily consumption estimated at 3,000 metric tons.

Meanwhile, Energy Secretary Delin Lazaro said over the weekend that natural gas and management of the demand side of the power sector may replace the contribution of imported coal in the country's power generation mix. The Department of Energy and Napocor, Lazaro said, were currently studying if the 9,800 Mw [megawatt] contribution of imported coal in the generation mix from the years 1999 to 2005 could be filled up instead by natural gas or lessened through the efficient use of energy.

The Malampaya field in Northwest Palawan is not only capable of producing oil but also natural gas. The energy department, Lazaro added, was also considering the economics of a liquefied natural gas facility. According to Lazaro, efficient use of energy, which could lower the demand elasticity by 0.2%, will result in an estimated 4,500 Mw reduction in capacity addition.

Basilan Muslim Rebels Reportedly Receive Arms

HK2603150793 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The military has reported the arrival of about 2,000 assorted arms, including two SAM-7 antiaircraft missiles, in Basilan, allegedly to be used by Muslim rebels to initiate violence in case the candidate they support loses the election in the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao.

A top-secret intelligence report gathered by DZRH News said the arms were reportedly taken to Saluping Island, Sumisip, Basilan, aboard a ship managed by a certain Muslimen Sema, alleged chief of staff of the Moro National Liberation Front based in central Mindanao. Sema's group was met by Talib Congo, chairman of the Basilan Revolutionary Committee, before proceeding to Tipo Tipo.

Military Identifies Mindanao Bombing Suspects

HK2603150893 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The military has identified the suspects who launched a series of bombings in Cotabato City and other areas in Mindanao. A top-secret intelligence report gathered by DZRH News identified the suspects as Bagan Gama, alias Bogs, and five others, including one identified only as alias Maro, alleged Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] sabotage group member.

The operations were reportedly led by Nurudin Taunga, another MNLF leader. The report added that a separate group led by a certain Commander Castro and Faizhal accepted a large amount as payment for a bombing mission in Cotabato City in case a certain candidate in the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao loses. The report further said that the group is waiting for a go signal from the brother of one of the candidates to start initiating violence.

Thailand

Thais Reportedly Working in Libyan CW Plant

BK2803084193 Bangkok SIAM POST in Thai 28 Mar 93 pp 1, 2

[Text] A high-level intelligence source told the SIAM POST on 27 March that the Thai Government is facing acute pressure from countries opposing the production of chemical weapons. The move is spearheaded by the United States which has reliable information that Thai nationals are participating in the chemical weapons project in Libya.

According to the source, the Libyan Government contacted a Thai company to work on the construction of the chemical weapons plant, which was delayed after the withdrawal of German and Japanese firms and their technical expertise at the request of the United States. Construction of the plant first began in early 1985.

The source said the participation of Thai nationals in the Libyan project was based on their self interest and that the Thai Government had no knowledge of it. The Thai firm disguised its business as a worker exporting establishment, but it did not even have a Labor Department permit.

According to the source, there is evidence attesting to Thai nationals working in the Libyan chemical plant. In interviews with the media, returning Thai workers told of the plant's high risk factor and about being issued with only one gas mask each.

The source said a campaign against chemical weapons began in 1925, with the United States and 28 other countries including Thailand signing a convention in Switzerland banning the use of chemical and biological weapons. However, the convention did not ban its production, development, or storage.

The source said: "Based on its humanitarian concern, the United States became the pioneer in opposing countries producing chemical weapons and brought that to the attention of the United Nations. Favorable response from the UK, France, Germany, and Japan resulted in a temporary halt to the Libyan chemical plant project, until its revival as the result of the assistance of the selfish Thai group."

The source said that after getting concrete information about participation of Thai nationals, the United States persuaded the international community to sign a treaty against chemical weapons. Libya refused to join the treaty and tried to carry on with its project. Therefore, the United States turned pressure on Thailand to identify the group participating in the Libyan project.

The source concluded: "In case Thailand fails to respond, the United States will appeal to Western countries to impose sanctions against countries supporting the project. Thailand will not be able to avoid the repercussions. Thai agencies are now cooperating fully in checking the information to block Thai nationals from participating in the Libyan project."

Ministry: No U.S. Retaliation Over Labor Issue

BK2903105993 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 29 Mar 93 p 4

[Text] According to a report from the Commerce Ministry, the United States has made it clear that it will not use the labor issue as criteria to cut tax concessions on Thai exports under the U.S. Generalised System of Preferences, GSP, because it is satisfied with Thailand's explanation and sincerity toward solving the labor problem. Thailand told the United States that it would push through the plan to set up a labor ministry and to allow the establishment of state enterprise unions.

Concerning the copyright and patent laws, the United States is worried that Thailand might not maintain efforts to stamp out violations. However, it was relieved after learning that our Interior Ministry is firm about suppressing copyright violators. Meanwhile, Thailand told the United States that it must maintain its stand of not giving retroactive protection on drug patents. For this reason, Thailand said it must comply with the draft agreement of the Uruguay round of GATT and cannot respond to the U.S. demand which goes beyond the GATT agreement.

The Thai negotiating team, led by Commerce Ministry Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena, is scheduled to return to Thailand on 29 March, and it is believed that the U.S. ruling will still not be known. Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon, therefore, may have to go to the United States before 30 April when the decision is expected to be announced.

Ministry To Stiffen Penalties on Tape Pirates

BK2903013893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Mar 93 p 32

[Text] The Interior Ministry will introduce tougher measures to deal with tape and videotape manufacturers who violate intellectual property rights of foreign companies and manufacturers.

Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut chaired a meeting on Friday of top officials from the Police Department, Interior Deputy Permanent Secretary Ari Wong-araya and Director-General of the Intellectual Property Department PIPHAT INTARASUPHT.

Mr Ari said the meeting agreed to impose tougher measures to suppress illegal producers of tapes, videos, movies and records.

The measures are both short and long term. The short-term measures are to have the department seize fake products nationwide. Stronger penalties on those who breached the country's copyright laws will be introduced. Cases have so far been settled out of court but such agreements may be prohibited. Of 94 cases of alleged copyright violation, more than 60 were settled out of court.

The department handling intellectual property will conduct a meeting between illegal producers and companies which hold the rights to distribute products in Thailand.

Foreign Songs Manufacturers Club's representative Somsak Songthammakhun asked the Government to establish a neutral company to negotiate with foreign owners to licence local firms to produce tapes. This would protect local manufacturers and their workers' jobs. Local companies which own the rights to distribute foreign song tapes would gain from an expected rise in sales.

Reportage, Reaction to Reversal of Assets Seizure

Politicians 'Overjoyed'

BK2703012393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Mar 93 p A1

[Text] Chat Thai Party deputy leaders Watthana Atsawahem and Sanoh Thianthong were overjoyed yesterday at the Supreme Court's invalidation of a military-installed committee's order for the seizure of their assets.

"I'm so glad," said Watthana, one of the four politicians whose confiscated assets worth millions were ordered released by the court yesterday.

Watthana, a former deputy interior minister, told reporters at his party's headquarters, where he was celebrating the decision, that he was innocent and honest in his handling of administrative work during the term of the Chatchai government.

"And I am also confident in the judicial system. The court is always the hope and recourse for me and other people," he said.

Watthana's assets worth Bt [baht] 4 million were ordered seized by the probe committee appointed by the now-defunct National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) after the coup on Feb 23, 1991. His was the lowest amount seized by the committee from the 10 politicians it deemed corrupt.

Sano, meanwhile, said he was delighted that the court had overturned the assets committee's decision against him.

Sano also served as deputy interior minister during the term of the Chatchai government. Assets worth Bt62.7 million were seized from him by the military-installed committee, headed by retired general Sit Chirarot.

Both Sano and Watthana said they had not yet considered the possibility of taking legal action against members of the NPKC and the assets committee for what had been done to them.

Chat Thai Party leader Praman Adireksan, another of the 10 politicians whose case has yet to go to the Civil Court, yesterday congratulated Watthana and Sano for regaining their assets.

"We all are happy to have been cleared in the end. We have suffered a lot from what they did to us," the former Interior and Industry minister in the Chatchai government said.

New Aspiration Party deputy leader Wira Musikaphong yesterday said the Supreme Court's invalidation of the NPKC-appointed committee's orders for the confiscation of the four politicians' assets has led to questions about the legality of other NPKC orders, as well as former premier Suchinda Khraprayun's order to grant amnesty to those involved in the pro-democracy protests last May.

Wira, a legal expert, cautioned that the court's ruling that the assets confiscation orders were invalid is not to be equated with establishing the innocence of those deemed corrupt by the probe committee.

Democracy Leaders React

BK2703012993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Mar 93 p A1

[Text] The Supreme Court's decision on Thursday to invalidate the coup order which led to the seizure of 10 politicians' assets did not automatically mean they were innocent of the corruption charges filed against them, pro-democracy leaders noted yesterday.

Student Federation of Thailand Secretary-General Karuna Buakhamsri said the court's ruling was a different matter than the corruption probe against the 10 politicians.

She said the court was right to annul the order issued by the National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC).

"But that does not prove by itself that these politicians are innocent. Members of society should raise this question," Karuna said.

The NPKC's Order No 26 set up a graft panel to probe politicians and Cabinet members suspected of illegally profiting during the administration of Chatchai Chunhawan.

The panel later summarily ruled against 10 of the initial 22 under investigation and ordered the seizure of their assets.

The 10 appealed against the graft panel's decisions and four of them later sought a court ruling on whether Order No 26 was constitutional.

Karuna's opinion was shared by Confederation for Democracy Chairman Dr San Hatirat.

San said the Supreme Court's decision was a judgement only on the legality of the NPKC order and had nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of those who were the target of the corruption probe.

"The Supreme Court only decided whether the coup order was constitutional or not. The court did not rule on the corruption charges," San said.

He said it would require another process to prove or disprove the graft panel's corruption findings.

"The panel must have had strong evidence to back its decisions to name these people 'unusually rich'. So far, I have not seen any evidence to disprove the panel's decisions," San said.

The confederation chief said he believed many would share his opinion.

"I believe most ordinary people still harbour the feelings they felt before the assets seizures. At that time, reports of corruption were rampant.

"Even those outside the country knew about it," San said.

San indicated he believed that the Supreme Court's ruling could open the way for the pro-democracy movement to bring to justice the generals who were responsible for the May bloodshed.

He said lawyers should take this opportunity to have other coup orders and suspected unconstitutional decrees, especially the one absolving the generals of responsibility, reviewed by the Supreme Court.

Before resigning in disgrace, former prime minister Suchinda Khraprayun issued an executive decree to absolve himself and the military for the bloody crackdown on the pro-democracy demonstrators.

Chuan Rules Out Reshuffle

BK2703013793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Mar 93 p A2

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has ruled out a Cabinet reshuffle as a consequence of the Supreme Court's ruling that corruption charges against the 10 "unusually rich" politicians were unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court decision had nothing to do with the government, he said yesterday.

"It's a court matter and has nothing to do with the administration."

He said there would be no Cabinet reshuffle before Parliament reconvenes for its ordinary session in May.

Deputy Prime Minister and deputy Democrat Party leader Banyat Banthatthan also refused to be drawn on the question of politicians relieved of the burden of corruption charges becoming cabinet ministers.

"That's the matter of the future," Banyat told seporters.

The Supreme Court yesterday nullified a corruption charge brought by the dissolved Assets Examination Committee against deputy Chat Thai Party leader Sano

Tianthong. The ruling, that the charges were unconstitutional, is also expected to apply to Chat Thai deputy leader Watthana Atsawahem former commerce minister Subin Pinkhayan and Social Action Party leader Montri Phongphanit.

The SAP is a member of the Chuan coalition, however Montri is not in the Cabinet. But Deputy Communications Minister and SAP member Somsak Thepsuthin said yesterday the party might decide to force Montri to fight for a Cabinet seat.

Deputy Prime Minister and Phalang Tham Party leader Bunchu Rotchanasathian also refused to comment on possible Cabinet posts for any of the "unusually rich" politicians.

Speaking before he knew the official ruling, Bunchu said before leaving for Nakhon Sawan that any Cabinet reshuffle would be a matter for the prime minister to decide.

He refused to comment further as he said he had no details of the decision.

Deputy Phalang Tham Party leader and University Affairs Minister Suthep Atthakon told The Nation it would "not be easy" for any of the 10 politicians to join the government because the coalition parties were still sticking tenaciously together.

However, it would in the long run be a decision to be made by the core party of the coalition, he said, in an apparent reference to the Democrat Party.

"If the core party wants a Cabinet reshuffle, it can do so because it commands the largest number of House seas," he said.

Under questioning, he predicted the opposition parties would now try even harder to join the government as a result of the ruling.

Social Action Party spokesman Phiyanat Watcharaphon said the SAP must strengthen is internal administration to face the new political situation after the court's ruling.

The party might hold an election for a new party executive committee soon, he said.

In a street survey held by The Nation yesterday, nine of 20 people questioned said the Supreme Court's ruling did not constitute proof of the innocence of the 10 "unusually rich" politicians.

Seven said the decision should automatically result in the politicians being declared innocent. The rest declined to comment.

However, those who thought the decision indicated innocence also said political etiquette required the 10 politicians to decline any Cabinet post offered them.

Further on Supreme Court Ruling

BK2703021593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Mar 93 pp 1,3

[Text] The Supreme Court has ruled as unconstitutional and void the seizure of assets belonging to former ministers of Gen Chatchai Chunhawan administration by the Assets Examination Committee under National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) Order No 26.

The landmark decision, hailed by human rights lawyer Thongbai Thongpao as a historic ruling which will radically change the face of Thai politics, was reached on Thursday by a panel of 66 Supreme Court judges chaired by Supreme Court President Praman Chansue.

It was announced yesterday evening by Civil Court judge Somchai Chingprasoet in the presence of an army of reporters and Sak Wetprasit, a lawyer who represented former deputy interior minister Sano Thianthong, one of the four ex-ministers who contested the Assets Examination Committee ruling confiscating his assets.

Although the Supreme Court ruling was read out for Mr Sano only it applies to eight other ministers, including former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan, and an aide who appealed against the assets committee decision.

The panel of judges ruled on three legal issues raised by the four petitioners:

Whether NPKC Order 26 was constitutional

Whether the order was consistent with all Thai constitutions which prohibit promulgation of any law which carries retroactive penalties against an offender; and

Whether the establishment of the Assets Examination Committee constitutes an infringement of the power of the court.

Before deliberating the three issues the panel discussed whether it had the power to consider the appeal or whether it should come under the Constitutional Tribunal.

The panel decided it did have the power to deliberate the appeal on the grounds that NPKC Order 26 was as good as a law and, therefore, must come under the interim Constitution 1991 and not contradict Article 34 of the interim charter.

Order 26 was issued by the NPKC two days after it seized power from the Chatchai administration and before the promulgation of the interim Constitution, the panel also decided.

The panel maintained that the court was authorised to judge whether any law was constitutional unless a specific law granted the power to other bodies aside from the court.

Citing articles 30 and 31 of the interim Constitution 1991, the panel decided the power to judge the constitutionality of NPKC Order 26 did not rest with the National Assembly created by the NPKC as it had already been dissolved.

It also ruled that the Constitutional Tribunal could only judge the constitutionality of the NPKC order when there were questions whether the order contradicted the Constitution, not the interim Constitution 1991.

The panel agreed the Asset Examination Committee order seizing the assets was an absolute power and different from the power vested in a factfinding committee or a disciplinary committee.

"Although a bill was issued later to amend NPKC Order 26, the amendment did not change the Assets Committee decision in essence. It only empowered the Supreme Court to withdraw the Asset Committee decision for assets which it could be proven were acquired legally.

"The Asset Examination Committee's power was a judicial power which, according to the tradition of Thai administration under democratic rule, belongs to the court of law.

"NPKC Order 26's articles 2 and 6 therefore, empowered the setting up of a body which is not a court to have judicial power. This defies the tradition of Thai administration under democratic rule," the panel decided.

The panel also said Order 26 had retroactive effect to penalise the former ministers "which, in accordance with all constitutions, is prohibited".

As such, the panel decided Order 26 contradicted Article 30 of the interim Constitution 1991 and was, therefore, null and void.

It cited a Supreme Court verdict, 222/2506 between Sakon Samsen plaintiff, and Sua Pothongiri and associates, defendants, to back up its reasoning.

The unconstitutionality of the NPKC order also made the assets seizure decisions by the Assets Examination Committee null and void, said the panel.

The panel ruled that all NPKC orders issued before the promulgation of the interim Constitution "are as good as law, but this does not mean that such orders can be enforced like a law even though they are against the interim Constitution".

Informed sources said the panel ruled 56:11 that it had the power to judge the appeal.

The vote on the three issues—constitutionality of the NPKC order, retroactivity of the order, and the Assets Committee's infringement on the power of the courts—were 55:1, 59:7 and 59:7 respectively.

Editorial Views Court Ruling

BK2803015093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Mar 93 p A10

[Editorial: "A lesson for the generals who want to stage coups"]

[Text] The Supreme Court's decision on Thursday to invalidate the coup order which led to the seizure of the assets of 10 politicians does not mean they have been proven innocent of the corruption charges filed against them.

The Supreme Court's decision was a judgment only on the legality of the National Peacekeeping Council's Order No 26 and had nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of those who were the target of the corruption probe.

Though the Supreme Court's decision might eliminate the chance of putting the 10 big-name politicians suspected of corruption on trial, there has been no evidence to disprove the findings of the Assets Examination Committee.

The Assets Examination Committee must have had strong evidence to back its decision to name the 10 politicians as "unusually rich", and no-one doubts that the chairman, Gen Sit Chirarot, is a man of impeccable honour. By virtue of a legal technicality the "unusually rich" politicians have cleared their names. Yet Thais still feel the same about these politicians as they did when their assets were seized. Thursday's Supreme Court decision will not alter that view.

The Supreme Court's decision has set an important and far-reaching legal precedent in the sense that no coup-plotters will be able to take things for granted and forcefully stamp their rule on the country by issuing decrees.

The ruling reached on Thursday by all 68 Supreme Court judges, chaired by Supreme Court President Praman Chansue, says that NPKC [National Peace-Keeping Council] Order No 26 contradicted Article 30 of the interim Constitution of 1991 and was therefore null and void. The unconstitutionality of the NPKC order also nullified the assets seizure decisions by the Assets Examination Committee.

Citing Articles 30 and 31 of the interim Constitution of 1991, the Supreme Court decided the power to judge the constitutional legality of the NPKC Order No 26 did not rest with the National Assembly created by the NPKC, as it had already been dissolved.

Until now, no one has questioned the legality of orders or decrees promulgated by successful coup parties, for they have always been regarded as being as fully enforceable as laws promulgated by Parliament. Supreme Court judges have in the past upheld orders made by military juntas as legally-binding. Previous Supreme Court rulings were made on the assumption that in the absence of a Constitution, the orders or decrees made by the coup parties had the status of law set by Parliament.

The Supreme Court decision is an assurance that the rule of law will prevail, and not some revolutionary decree proclaimed after an illegal seizure of power. Thursday's decision will serve as a lesson for those who are harbouring intentions of seizing power illegally and taking the law into their own hands.

The Supreme Court's ruling also came at a time when the Chuan coalition is racked by inter-party conflict. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and his Democrat Party might be tempted to try reshuffling the Cabinet as a way out—now that the stigma which had curbed the political legitimacy of several of the opposition leaders has been removed.

Though the ruling might provide Chuan and the Democrats with a political expediency, it is definitely not an answer to their political woes. Chuan and his party were swept into power by pro-democracy sentiment, but have yet to show they can run the country effectively. Chuan, in particular, has still to demonstrate he is in charge. Reshuffling the Cabinet is no alternative to strong leadership.

Air Force Commander Dismisses Coup Threat

BK2803014093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Mar 93 p A1

[Text] Air Force Commander in Chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kan Pimanthip said yesterday the armed forces had "regained the faith" of the people. And he dismissed a leading politician's fears of a military coup d'etat.

"They are too suspicious. The armed forces would never entertain such an idea," he said.

ACM Kan's comments came in response to a warning by Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut on Friday that there had been attempts to topple the present government through a power grab. Gen Chawalit told the annual meeting of his New Aspiration Party that the military's poor image as a result of the events of last May "is not a deterrent to a coup d'etat".

ACM Kan insisted that the armed forces would not interfere in politics.

"We leave politics to the politicians," he said.

The air force chief said the commanders of all the military branches were against a coup d'etat. "All we want is to try to help the government to function," he said. The armed forces had been strictly toeing the line to improve their image.

"We have been doing our best to create a good image for the armed forces," he said.

Army Commander in Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit yesterday reaffirmed the army's support for democracy, but declined to comment on the current political situation.

"I have no duty to comment on politics. Likewise, good politicians should not comment on the armed forces," he said.

Vietnam

Reportage on Vo Van Kiet's Japan Visit

Premier Talks With Miyazawa

BK2603161593 Hanoi VNA in English 1608 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 26—Visiting Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held talks with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa at the latter's palace on Thursday.

The Vietnamese side included the high officials who accompany the prime minister on his current visit to Japan and Vietnamese Ambassador to Japan Nguyen Tam Chien. The Japanese side included many high officials of the Japanese Government and Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita. The two prime ministers had an in-depth exchange [of] views on the directions and measures to further strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two countries and on regional and international issues of mutual concern.

On behalf of the Japanese Government, Prime Minister K. Miyazawa warmly welcomed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit to Japan and expressed his hope that this first official visit by a Vietnamese prime minister will mark a new stage of development in the relations between Japan and Vietnam.

The Japanese prime minister highly valued Vietnam's renovation policy and stressed that following its resumption of official development aid (ODA) to Vietnam late last year, the Japanese Government will continue to further expand and intensify its economic, scientific and technical cooperation with Vietnam, in which priorities will be given to efforts to help Vietnam upgrade and build such economic infrastructures as railways, roads, seaports, airports, energy and post and telecommunication, and such social infrastructures as education, training and public health. In order to fruitfully carry out these economic cooperation and assistance, in the coming period, the Japanese Government will dispatch an economic survey team to Vietnam to study the practical situation and needs of the Vietnamese side and exchange views on concrete projects so as to decide on the projects to be built and the aid amount that the Japanese Government will provide for Vietnam.

The Japanese side wished that the U.S.-Vietnamese relations be soon normalized and welcomed Vietnam's goodwill and efforts in this direction.

Prime Minister Miyazawa also expressed his hope that relations between Vietnam and such international financial and monetary institutions as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank will be improved. He promised that Japan will continue to cooperate actively with other countries in helping Vietnam improve its relations with these institutions.

On behalf of the Vietnamese Government, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet expressed his sincere thanks to the Japanese Government and people for the warm and meticulous hospitality they have reserved for his delegation during its visit. He stressed that the strengthening of the friendship and the broadening of the cooperation between Vietnam and Japan will not only meet the interests and aspiration of the two peoples but also contribute to the development of the region, conforming with the current common trend of peace, stability and development.

The Vietnamese leader thanked the Japanese Government for its resumption of official development aid to Vietnam and welcomed the Japanese Government's decision to further strengthen its cooperation with Vietnam in many fields, first of all economic, trade, and scientific and technical, in conformity with the potentials of the two countries and Japan's role in the region and the world as a whole.

He reaffirmed that Vietnam's renovation policy is a fundamental and long-term one, which is being carried out actively and consistently and enjoying the practical support of the entire Vietnamese people and the high appreciation of international friends. The Vietnamese prime minister pointed out that Vietnam is for a normalization of relations without any pre-conditions with the U.S. and has done all it can in this direction. He also said that Vietnam is ready to cooperate with the U.S. to solve the humanitarian issues of the two countries, including the MIA issue. As regards the Cambodia issue, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet affirmed that Vietnam, as a signatory to the Paris agreement on Cambodia, has always respected and seriously implemented the agreement with the hope that the other concerned parties and countries will do the same, so that Cambodia can become a country of peace, independence, neutrality and nonalignment, antertaining friendly relations with all countries. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet invited Prime Minister K. Miyazawa to visit Vietnam. The invitation was accepted with thankful pleasure.

The same day, the Vietnamese prime minister also met with Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Michio Watanabe. He welcomed the positive efforts and precious contributions made by Mr. Watanabe to the promotion of the Vietnamese-Japanese relations. He also expressed his confidence that this relationship will be strengthened and broadened quickly to meet the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries and the other countries in the region.

In the afternoon of March 25, at the guest house of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, Vietnamese Minister for Foreign Affairs Nguyen Manh Cam and Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs M. Watanabe signed a note of exchange on Japan's granted aid to Vietnam in the 1992 fiscal year to upgrade the Hai Ba Trung Hospital in Hanoi and undertake an afforestation project in the central highland Province of Darlac .

Meets Emperor Akihito

BK2703064893 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27—Visiting Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet called on Japanese Emperor Akihito at the Royal Palace in Tokyo yesterday. The Vietnamese prime minister said to the Japanese emperor that the Vietnamese Government and people will do all they can to contribute to the consolidation and strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Japan, giving them a new quality for the presperity of each country and for peace, stability, friendship and development in the region. In anticipation of the upcoming engagement and marriage of the Japanese crown prince, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet wished him happiness. Emperor Akihito shared with the Vietnamese prime minister his joy at the Vietnamese people's glorious achievements in national construction. The emperor wished for further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Holds News Conference 26 Mar

BK2703105393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] According to a special VNA correspondent, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet met with Japanese and foreign press, radio, and television correspondents at the Japanese Press Club in Tokyo on the afternoon of 26 March.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet cordially welcomed those newsmen present and through them, he conveyed the Vietnamese people's friendly feelings toward the Japanese people and to the people of those countries friendly to Vietnam.

The prime minister said: As you friends know, my visit is the first visit of a Vietnamese prime minister to Japan since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries 20 years ago. Therefore, we attach great importance to this visit and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the emperor, the government, and the people of Japan for having accorded a warm and hospitable welcome to our delegation.

The history of relations between the two countries has seen many ups and downs as a result of events occurring in the region. Today, the world and regional situation has changed. There is now a common trend in the world situation toward peace, stability, and development. We have a good opportunity to review our past and look toward the future, to try to join hands in building a long-lasting and durable relationship in the interests of the two peoples and for peace, stability, and prosperity in the region.

Through durable and effective cooperation, we will be able to find ways to satisfactorily solve those residual problems left behind by history.

After reviewing his activities in Japan over the past three days, the prime minister said: Through various exchanges of views, the two sides reached a common conclusion that improvements have been made in the relations between the two countries and that development aid for Vietnam was resumed by the Japanese Goverment in late 1992. These relations, however, are still not appropriate with the potential, development requirements, and aspirations of the two peoples.

Japan's direct investment in Vietnam is still not appropriate although there was continuity in trade relations in the past. We also unanimously agreed that in the immediate future, efforts should be made to promote cooperation for rapid development to make up for the lost time. This will benefit our two peoples and at the same time will contribute duly to the cause of peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. For this purpose, we and the Japanese side have agreed on major ways to promote cooperative relations such as increasing Japan's official aid for Vietnam, promoting direct investment by various Japanese business consortiums and organizations in Vietnam, and broadening barter trade between the two countries.

Japanese leaders have highly appreciated our achievements in the cause of renovation and they have affirmed that they will actively support and assist us in the renovation process. They will give priority to help us upgrade and build our infrastucture, including grass-roots economic establishments such as roads, seaports, airports, energy, telecommunications and grass-roots social facilities such as education, training, and public health establishments. Importance should be attached to the economic results of various projects, both present and long-term.

The Government and people of Vietnam thanked the warm sentiments of the Government and people of Japan toward our national construction.

Touching on the international situation, the prime minister said:

During various contacts, we have also exchanged views on a number of international and regional issues of mutual concern, particularly the issue of cooperation and development of the Southeast Asian and Asia-Pacific regions.

By the way, we would like to bring your attention to the complex situation now occurring in Cambodia, which is in the process of implementing the Paris agreement, due to the sabotage of the agreement, chiefly by the Khmer Rouge faction. We would like to bring Japanese and world public attention to the Khmer Rouge's barbarous masacres of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia. Not only did these actions violate the Paris agreement on Cambodia, but they also violated those conventions on human rights already approved by the United Nations.

We ask that within their functions and authority already stipulated in the Paris agreement, the United Nations, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, the State of Cambodia, and especially the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia) take drastic and effective measures to avert the Khmer Rouge's manslaughter activities and to protect the interests and the livelihood of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia in accordance with international laws.

We urgently appeal to the people of various countries and to all conscientious people in the world to strongly condemn the Khmer Rouge for their barbarous acts and resolutely raise their voice to stay their bloody hands so as to protect the livelihood and the lives of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia.

We welcome every effort made by Japan to enhance cooperation with all nations, first of all with regional countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

We welcome the initiatives of Prime Minister Miyazawa to hold an Indochina Development Forum in Tokyo in September this year and we are ready to participate in this forum.

Finally, the prime minister emphasized: It can be said that our visit has produced good results. We believe that this visit will mark a new stage in the relations between Vietnam and Japan and will contribute to bringing the cooperation between our two countries to a higher dimension, a higher scale, and a broader and more diverse scope. A new chapter in the relations between the two countries has been unfolded. We believe that these relations are very promising.

The prime minister answered many questions raised by newmen about Vietnam's renovation policy, about Vietnam's relations with other countries, and about prospects for economic and trade cooperations between Vietnam and Japan.

Meets Japanese Business Leaders

BK2703151793 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27—Visiting Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet met in Tokyo yesterday morning with nearly 200 representatives of 80 major business groups in the Japanese capital and its neighbouring prefectures.

The meeting, which was held at the office of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), proceeded in the form of a seminar for the Vietnamese prime minister and his delegation and the leaders of Keiranren and other Japanese key businessmen to discuss the development of the Vietnam-Japan economic and trade relations in the new stage.

Mr. Geishi Hiraiwa, chairman of Keidanren, hailed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit and expressed the Japanese businesses' interests in cooperation with Vietnam which, he said, has an important position in Southeast Asia. He also said that a stable and developed Vietnam will contribute to the stability and development of the region and the world as a whole.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet briefed the Japanese businessmen of Vietnam's economic situation, its policy of renovation, the initial achievements it has made in renovation, and the outstanding problems it is concentrating on at present. 'In our movement toward a market economy and integrating ourselves into the world economy, Vietnam has opted the right direction and overcome the initial trials', he said. The prime minister said, 'Opportunities for investment and businesses in Vietnam, its political and social stability, the results of its process of renovation and its open-door foreign policy in the new situation of the world and the region, have helped Vietnam attract increasing attention from foreign countries, making many of them unwilling to be the late birds'.

On Vietnam-Japan relations and the Japanese businesses' cooperation and investment in Vietnam, the prime minister said, 'Vietnam and Japan have great potentials and favourable conditions to broaden their cooperation and mutual assistance in the interests of each country's economic development. However, these potentials have so far been tapped only at a low level. It is in our two countries' interests to bring our cooperation to a new level, both in depth and in width, making it comensurate with Japan's position and Vietnam's capabilities. This is also a contribution to the stability, cooperation and development in the region and the rest of the world'.

Many Japanese business representatives at the meeting also agreed that the present economic and trade relations between Japan and Vietnam are not proportionate to each country's potentials and desire.

The meeting was also attended by Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita and Vietnamese Ambassador to Japan Nguyen Tam Chien.

Later in the day, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet called at the Vietnamese Embassy in Japan and had cordial talks with representatives of the overseas Vietnamese association in Japan, the embassy staff and Vietnamese students from various schools and universities in Japan.

Visits Kyoto

BK2803143393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] According to a special Vietnam News Agency [VNA] correspondent, on the morning of 27 March, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage left Tokyo aboard a high-speed train to visit the ancient capital city of Kyoto some 500 kilometers southwest of the capital. Kyoto Province Chief Mr. (Ramaki), Mayor (Watanabe), and many provincial officials warmly welcomed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage and gave a reception in their honor.

Speaking at the reception, the province chief warmly welcomed the visit to Japan and the province of Kyoto by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and other distinguished Vietnamese guests, stressing that the visit has opened up a new stage in the relations between Japan and Vietnam. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet thanked his excellency the province chief and all those present for the warm welcome and hospitality they had reserved for his delegation as well as for the fine sentiments they had nurtured toward the Vietnamese nation and people. The prime minister expressed his pleasure to visit the famous ancient capital city of Kyoto, Japan's most ancient cultural and historical center, where precious, typical, Japanese artifacts have been preserved for many centuries now.

The prime minister recalled an incident known to many Vietnamese as follows: During his lifetime, upon learning about the demise of President Ho Chi Minh, Superior Bonze (Onishi Riohay) of (Kiomido) Temple wrote a poem and dedicated it to the late president. At present, in inheriting that tradition, young bonzes at the temple have continued to promote their solidarity with and support for Vietnam.

The prime minister was happy to tell the province chief that the relations between Vietnam and Japan have entered a new stage. He expressed the belief that with the common efforts of the two sides, those ties would develop more vigorously. He was hopeful that the province of Kyoto would positively contribute to this process.

The prime minister toured a number of prefectures in Kyoto and visited (Kiomido) Temple where Superior Bonze (Muri) briefed the prime minister on the history of the temple, took him on a tour to key places there, and respectfully presented him a copy of the poem written and dedicated to the late President Ho Chi Minh by Superior Bonze (Onishi) in 1969. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet was deeply moved by the fine feelings of Superior Bonze (Onishi) and the people of Kyoto toward President Ho Chi Minh. He sincerely thanked Superior Bonze (Muri) for having presented this poem to the Vietnamese people, regarding it as a vivid manifestation of the friendship between Vietnam and Japan and a contributive factor to the further consolidation of the relations between the two peoples.

The prime minister said: Vietnam and Japan are friends. President Ho Chi Minh must be very pleased because the friendship between Vietnam and Japan has constantly developed with every passing day.

In the evening, the prime minister left Kyoto for a visit to the province of Osaka.

'Successfully' Concludes Visit

BK2803160593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet paid an official visit to Japan from 24-28 March at the invitation of the Japanese Government. A special plane carrying Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage landed at 1715 this afternoon at the Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi, successfully concluding the prime minister's visit to Japan.

Previously, on the afternoon of 27 March, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage visited Osaka Province and the city of Osaka, which served as Japan's economic and cultural center in the 16th century and which is now ranked second after the capital city of Tokyo in terms of gross natural product and national income per capita.

Province Chief Mr. (Kaso Nakasawa), Mayor (Mataya Nisio), and many provincial and city officials warmly welcomed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and gave a reception in their honor.

In expressing his views at the reception, the province chief stressed: The relations between Japan and Vietnam have entered a new stage. Based on its position, Osaka is striving to broaden its cooperation with Vietnam and contribute to national reconstruction in Vietnam. He expressed the hope that this first visit by the Vietnamese prime minister will be a new landmark in the history of relations between Japan and Vietnam in general and between Vietnam and Osaka in particular. He sincerely wished Vietnam development and prosperity and the Vietnamese people happiness and wealth.

In his speech, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet pointed out: Our visit to Osaka was very short. We, however, witnessed with our own eyes the great national construction achievements of the people of Osaka. Being an industrial center and a port city, Osaka plays a very important role in the national economy. Its industry, commerce, and service industry are highly developed. I believe that our visit to Osaka has brought us many useful lessons.

The prime minister cited many historical facts to prove that the relations between Vietnam and Osaka were established approximately 300 years ago when Japanese merchant ships arrived in Vietnam from Osaka Port and a number of Japanese merchants at that time lived and worked in Hoi An City in Central Vietnam.

The prime minister expressed the hope that owing to its traditions and role as a venue for friendship between the two peoples, Osaka will continue to make important contributions to the development of cooperation and friendship between Japan and Vietnam in the days ahead.

On the morning of 28 March, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage visited the province of Iyoko some 600 kilometers south of the capital city of Tokyo. This is also the last leg of the prime minister's visit to Japan this time.

Despite the rain, the province chief, Mr. (Kahara), and officials in the province and at Kobe Port welcomed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and other Vietnamese guests and gave a reception in their honor. In expressing his views at the reception, on behalf of the people of Iyoko, the province chief expressed the honor he felt in welcoming the first visit to Japan and Iyoko by a Vietnamese prime minister. Next, he touched on the relations dated way back in history between the two countries through the presence of Vietnamese ocean-going vessels at Kobe Port and of Japanese ocean-going vessels at Vietnam's Saigon and Haiphong Ports. These are vivid manifestations of the cooperative ties between Japan and Vietnam. The province chief sincerely wished the Vietnamese people even greater achievements in national construction and development based on the renovation line.

The prime minister expressed his admiration for the creative work that the Japanese people had manifested in the course of building Kobe Port more than 1,000 years ago despite difficulties caused by nature and for their current efforts to bring the port to a very modern level. The prime minister highly valued the building and management experiences of Kobe Port and wished that those experiences will be applied in Vietnam to help the latter build and strongly develop its maritime sector.

Returns From Japan

BK2803163093 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 28—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage were back here this afternoon, after a four-day official visit to Japan.

While in Japan, the prime minister called on Japanese Emperor Akihito who asked the former to convey his regards to the Vietnamese leaders and his wish for the Vietnamese people to make new achievements in their national construction.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet had talks with Japanese Prime Minister K. Miyazawa, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Michio Watanabe and other senior Japanese officials on the Japan-Vietnam relations and a number of international and regional issues of mutual concern.

In these talks, the two sides reviewed at length the process of development of the bilateral relations and exchanged views on the directions and measures to strengthen the relations in the coming period.

They were of the view that their relations have made positive development in the recent period. However, they also agreed that the relations as they are at present are not commensurate with each country's potentials and their peoples' desire.

The Japanese side highly valued the Vietnamese people's achievements in renovation, welcomed Vietnam's open-door foreign policy, and expressed their belief that under its current policies Vietnam will soon make fast steps of development. Japan also affirmed that it will strive to enchance and expand its cooperation with Vietnam in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology.

Japan will also consider and decide at an early date its official development aid (ODA) to Vietnam for 1993, increase its insurance for credit and trade capitals to encourage Japanese companies, business groups and enterpreneurs to invest in Vietnam.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said that given the ups and downs in the two countries' relations in the past decades, only an ever brodadening bilateral cooperation can provide the best solution to the bilateral problems left by history. He thanked the Japanese Government for the granted aid to Vietnam it declared during his visit and took note with appreciation of Japan's intent to increase its cooperation with and assistance for Vietnam in the coming period. He also stressed that in its implementation of the renovation policy, Vietnam needs the cooperation and assistance in capital and technology from foreign countries, especially Japan. He expressed his hope that his visit as well as the first high-level exchanges between the two countries will open a new page in the strengthening of their friendship and cooperation in the interests of the two peoples, and for peace, stability and development in the region.

While in Japan, the prime minister and his entourage met with representatives of the Vietnam-Japan friendship parliamentary alliance, and more than 80 Japanese corporations and business groups. He also visited Japan's old capital Kyoto, the Osaka Prefecture and its port city and the Kobe Prefecture and its port city.

The Vietnamese businessmen accompanying the prime minister also met with Japan's concerned offices in an effort to pick up their Japanese counterparts. [sentence as received] A number of contracts on joint ventures and commodity exchange have been signed for 1993.

Premier, Foreign Minister Comment

BK2903060093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Interview with Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam by station correspondents on their official visit to Japan upon returning to Hanoi on 28 March—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Dear friends, at the invitation of the Japanese Government, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet visited Japan from 24 to 28 March. Yesterday, 28 March, at 1715 the plane carrying the prime minister and his entourage landed at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi after their successful visit to Japan.

Upon his arrival at the airport, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet remarked briefly on his impressions of the visit:

[Vo Van Kiet] "I have met with representatives of large, medium, and small Japanese economic and business groups as well as officials of major seaport and aviation agencies. However, I did not have enough time to talk to all of them. Nevertheless, various Japanese circles, businessmen, and cultural and social organizations have attached much importance to my visit and I think that this is a very good sign."

Answering our question on the actual results of the visit, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said:

[Vo Van Kiet] "There were many concrete results attained during my visit, but you will see them in the near future, not immediately."

Dear friends, also at Noi Bai International Airport yesterday, our correspondent interviewed Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam on the visit.

[Correspondent] "Comrade Minister, would you please give us your general views on our prime minister's visit to Japan?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] "Through this visit we have come to realize that Japan attaches much importance to Vietnam and its people as well as to the official visit to that country by our prime minister. The most striking event testifying to this fact is that Japanese Emperor Akihito granted an audience to our prime minister and this symbolizes the significance of our visit. In this spirit, I hope that bilateral relations will be satisfactorily developed further.

"During the visit, our prime minister held official meetings with high-ranking officials of the Japanese Government as well as with Japanese businessmen, while Vietnamese and Japanese businessmen exchanged views and experiences in their discussions. All of these events have asserted a common wish and a firm foundation for accelerating and expanding bilateral cooperation between Vietnam and Japan. Aside from the advantages of geographical proximity and cultural similarity, the Japanese contend that our renovation policy is correct and effective. They believe that with this policy and a diligent and intelligent population, Vietnam will firmly advance further and that both countries have unique conditions to help each other: Japan has capital, technology, and experience while Vietnam has natural resources and its contingent of diligent and skilled workers. We have also come to realize this and contend that if these two conditions are combined and exploited, it will bring great benefit not only to the development of the two countries but also to the region as a whole.

"The Vietnamese delegation to Japan this time also included a group of Vietnamese businessmen. As a result, aside from meetings between our prime minister accompanied by Vietnamese businessmen and more than 200 representatives of over 80 economic groups and business corporations, many other Japanese private economic organizations and state agencies responsible for economic relations with foreign countries also asked to meet with our prime minister and Vietnamese businessmen. They have expressed their wish to accelerate bilateral cooperation in various fields.

"While visiting various cities of Japan, though, our delegation's time was very limited. Representatives of Japanese business groups and economic organizations sought to meet with us to express their wishes to go to

Vietnam to speed up the improvement of bilateral relations. Particularly in Osaka and Kobe, the two most developed cities of Japan, representatives of many medium-sized business groups and corporations met with the Vietnamese delegation to express their wish to expand relations with Vietnam. I think that if these medium-sized industrial and business corporations form joint ventures with Vietnam, it will benefit our country the most because their businesses suit our present conditions. I have the impression that not only the Japanese Government sector but also the private economic and business circles of Japan have shown their wish to cooperate and expand economic and trade relations with Vietnam."

Dear friends, concerning the actual results attained in the official visit to Japan by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam said:

[Nguyen Manh Cam] "The Japanese side asserted that: First, Japan will continue to speed up the dispersal of its Official Development Aid to Vietnam. Second, Japan will encourage Japanese large, medium, and small trade and business groups and corporations to invest in and expand economic cooperation with Vietnam. Third, Japan will improve insurance in trade credits to expand business cooperation with Vietnam while promoting technology transfer to increase exports of Vietnamese products. The Japanese side also asserted that the priority tasks prior to large-scale Japanese investment in Vietnam is its contribution to building and upgrading our economic infrastructure which includes the construction of more roads, railroads, seaports, and airports; electricity, energy, and telecommunication networks; as well as other projects serving the education, training, and public health domains. In the near future, a group of Japanese experts will visit Vietnam to exchange views on various projects. During their visit, discussions will be held and decisions will be made on how to increase Japanese development aid to Vietnam."

Dear friends, the official visit to Japan by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet has concluded with splendid success. We firmly believe that this visit will open up a new era in the relations of cooperation and friendship between the two states and peoples of Vietnam and Japan.

Paper Praises Visit

BK2903064693 Hanoi VNA in English 0630 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 29—'The just-concluded Japan visit of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet has opened a new and promising chapter in the relations between the two countries. The dawn has come to the relationship between the two countries after so many ups and downs' wrote the daily NHAN DAN today under the title 'Dawn in Vietnam-Japan Relations'.

The paper noted that the Japanese emperor and parliamentarians of various political parties as well as wide public opinion in Japan warmly welcomed the Vietnamese prime minister and attached great importance to the visit. The two sides shared the common view that the further promotion of the multifaceted Japan-Vietnam relations not only meet the interests and aspiratiions of the two peoples but also help in the development of Asian and the Pacific along the common trend toward, stability and development.

The Japanese leaders highly valued Vietnam's achievements in its renovation process and affirmed their active support and assistance for Vietnam in the upgrading and building of its economic infrastructures such as roads, harbours, airports, power plants and telecommunications and in social affairs such as education and medical training.

The Japanese side expressed their hope that the Vietnam-US relationship would be normalized soon and welcomed Vietnam's good will and efforts in this direction. Japan supports and will continue to make active contributions to improving the relations between Vietnam and the international financial-monetary organisations.

In conclusion, the paper wrote, 'The Vietnamese Government and people thank the Japanese Government and people for their understanding and warm sentiments toward Vietnam in the cause of national construction'.

VNA Cites UNTAC Official on Killing of Vietnamese

BK2603160793 Hanoi VNA in English 1555 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 26—UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Spokesman Eric Falt said in Phnom Penh today that eight Vietnamese residents were killed on March 24 while fishing on the Tonle Sap river in Cambodia. This figure included one missing man who was found dead yesterday afternoon. Earlier, reports put the number of killed Vietnamese at five.

The same spokesman said that investigation conducted by UNTAC civil police concluded that the massacre was launched at about 7:30 hrs on March 24 on the Tonle Sap River, three kilometres from the Chnok Thru Village in the Cambodian Province of Kompong Chhnang. One woman was stabled in the chest and one man was chopped with an ax.

Others killed included three children and were shot in the back, chest, neck or head with AK47 automatic rifles fired at very close range. Still according to the UNTAC spokesman, after killing these Vietnamese fishermen, the attackers, who withnesses said, included between 10 and 20 gun men and belonged to the Khmer Rouge, robbed the victims of two boat motors and withdrew from the area. The spokesman also said that once again, UNTAC strongly condemned this savage act.

Spokesman Blames UNTAC for Khmer Rouge Killings

BK2703164093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] According to foreign sources, a representative of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] recently said that it cannot protect hundreds of families of Vietnamese residents fleeing from acts of violence and racism in northeast Cambodia.

The spokesman of UNTAC and the person in charge of the issue of human rights in Cambodia also said that according to the Paris agreement, it is the Phnom Penh government which is responsible for the protection of Vietnamese residents and that the United Nations can only observe the situation and adopt a wait-and-see policy.

Answering questions by a number of correspondents about this issue, a spokesman of our Foreign Ministry said:

UNTAC and other power structures in Cambodia are responsible for the protection of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia—not only in terms of morality, but also in terms of legality. In terms of legality, this responsibility has been pointed out very clearly in the Paris agreement:

1. Article 16 of the agreement on a comprehensive political solution to the conflict in Cambodia has specified clearly that during the transitional period, UNTAC will be responsible for promoting an environment which guarantees that the respect of human rights will be based on various articles of Appendix 1, Section E.

According to the stipulations of the Paris agreement, as a UN authority organ, UNTAC is directly responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Paris agreement. This includes the guarantee of human rights, public security, and the life and property of all citizens in Cambodia, which also includes Vietnamese residents.

Meanwhile, Articles 3 and 5 of the agreement on the sovereignty, territorial integrity, neutrality, and national unification of Cambodia have stipulated clearly that the parties concerned pledge to guarantee the respect of human rights and other basic rights of freedom, especially to prevent a reoccurrence of human rights violations. In case there are serious violations of human rights in Cambodia, the signatory parties will call on the UN to adopt suitable measures to prevent and suppress the acts of violation in conformity with the international documents concerned.

2. Item 1 of Article 15 of the Paris agreement on Cambodia has specified clearly that all people in Cambodia, including refugees and displaced persons, enjoy all the rights and freedom shown in the international declaration on human rights and other international documents on human rights. As such, Vietnamese residents in Cambodia are also entitled to all basic human rights like other foreign residents.

People of conscience are seriously concerned over the recent and repeated massacre of Vietnamese residents by the Khmer Rouge. These are manifestations of serious human rights violations, which remind the people of genocidal crimes. The shirking of the responsibility to protect Vietnamese residents in Cambodia only indirectly encourages the Khmer Rouge to continue carrying out acts of terrorizing and killing Vietnamese residents, which is aimed at undermining the peace process, preventing the general election in Cambodia, misleading world public opinion about their violations of the Paris agreement, stirring up national hatred, inciting Vietnamese residents to flee to their homeland, and causing instability in Vietnam.

With these acts, they have brazenly challenged the world community and impaired the prestige of the United Nations of which UNTAC is its representative in Cambodia.

While reaffirming Vietnam's unequivocal stand and its readiness to cooperate with UNTAC in scrupulously implementing the Paris agreement, once again we urgently call on UNTAC and all parties concerned to adopt the most decisive and drastic measures to prevent acts of terrorizing and killing Vietnamese residents and to ensure that they enjoy all basic human rights as specified clearly in the Paris agreement and other international documents.

Iranian Minister, Delegation End Visit

BK2703152593 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27—A delegation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by its Deputy Minister Abbas Malaki paid a three-day visit to Vietnam, ending today.

While here the delegation paid tribute to the late president Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his former home and office.

The delegation called on Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh and informed him of the Iranian leaders' measures for strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

At the meeting Mr. Abbas Malaki highly valued the achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in their cause of renovation and affirmed Iran's desire to strengthen and develop its cooperative relations with Vietnam in many fields.

Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh expressed his wish for the betterment of the Vietnam-Iran cooperation.

The delegation held talks with a delegation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry headed by Deputy Minister Le Mai. The two sides informed each other of the situation in their respective countries, compared notes on regional and international issues of mutual concern, and discussed possibilities of bilateral cooperation in economy, culture, education and training.

The Iranian guests also had separate working sessions with Minister of Culture and Information Tran Hoan, and First Deputy Minister of Education and Training Pham Minh Hac.

Iranian Ambassador to Vietnam M.H. Taberi was present at the above-said activities of the Iranian delegation.

Le Duc Anh Visits Thua Thien Hue Province

BK2803103393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 27 Mar 93

[Summary] "From 22-26 March, in preparation for the third session of the Ninth National Assembly, Comrade Le Duc Anh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, paid a visit and met with voters of Thua Thien-Hue Province. Leading comrades in the standing bodies of the Party Committee, People's Council, People's Committee, and the Fatherland Front Committee, and leaders of local departments, sectors, and mass organizations cordially welcomed President Le Duc Anh."

During his meetings with local voters, President Le Duc Anh devoted much of his time to visiting 12 villages in Phu Loc, Phu Vang, Phong Dien, and Huong Tra Districts. At the villages, President Le Duc Anh paid special attention to learning about the local production situation and the welfare of people, as well as the implementation of the 10th resolution of the party Central Committee Political Bureau.

At the villages of Vinh Hien, Vinh Hung, Phu Vien, and Phu Hai, where most people live on fishing and marine product rearing, "President Le Duc Anh praised the party organization and local people for their efforts in overcoming difficulties and developing the local econmy so as to stabilize people's livelihood."

Visiting Go Doi Village of Phong Dien District, "President Le Duc Anh reminded the district authorities to urgently develop the irrigation system so as to serve the district's planting area." At the Huong Tra District, President Le Duc Anh visited the site of Van Xa Cement Plant Construction Project, which will be started this coming April.

"After visiting and meeting with local voters, President Le Duc Anh had working sessions with leaders of the districts of Phu Loc, Phu Vang, Phong Dien, and Huong Tra. The president urged the cadres and party members to love and care for their people, to unite with one another in order to mobilize people to exploit local strengths and potential, and to build together a prosperous and beautiful homeland. Cadres and party members should all set good examples, not only in pursuing clean wealth for their family, but also in helping other people, in making the rich richer and the poor less poor. This will eliminate the bad practice in the countryside of charging high interests for loans and together with the entire country, contribute to the success of our renovation undertaking."

Vu Oanh Attends Hoa Binh Ceremony

BK2603102093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Yesterday, 25 March, a ceremony to review the Communist Youth Project of the last 10 years was held with the participation of youths from former and current units working on the Hoa Binh Hydroelectricity Project; youth union cadres of different generations; heroes of socialist labor, including Hero (Parachievko); Comrades Vu Oanh, Vu Mao, Ngo Xuan Loc, Ho Duc Viet; representatives of the Energy Ministry; Hoa Binh Province; and youth unions of Hanoi, Haiphong, Son La, Ha Tay, and Hoa Binh. The ceremony observed one minute of silence to pay tribute to 187 Vietnamese workers and USSR specialists who have fallen for today's electricity service.

Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; Ho Duc Viet, first secretary of the youth union Central Committee; Ngo Xuan Loc, minister of transportation; and Nguyen Khac Kien, general director of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectricity Construction General Company hailed the great contributions of the more than 400,000 youth union members. They have devoted their energy to completing the giant project in a complicated area which requires high technology skills, modern equipment, a continuous and pressing working pace, and a high sense of national responsibility.

Comrade Vu Oanh solemnly conferred a State Order of Independent Third Class to cadres and youth union members of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectricity Construction General Company.

Australia

German Foreign Minister, Keating Hold Talks

LD2803083693 Hamburg DPA in German 0140 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Port Douglas/Australia (DPA)—Federal Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel conducted a one-hour talk with the head of the Australian government, Paul Keating, today in Port Douglas. Afterwards, Kinkel made a boat trip to the Great Barrier Reef with his counterpart Gareth Evans.

A German Foreign Ministry spokesman said that increased economic and scientific cooperation were the main focus of the discussion in the holiday resort on the north coast of Australia. The Australian side was hoping above all for more German investment in Australia and that the new GATT agreement will be successfully concluded as soon as possible.

Kinkel informed the Australian leader in detail of the situation in Russia and the former Yugoslavia. In particular, he stressed that this was the first visit to Australia by a German foreign minister for 36 years. Kinkel will go on to the capital, Canberra, this afternoon. On Tuesday he will visit Sydney, and on Wednesday fly to New Zealand. At the end of the visit, the foreign minister will visit Vietnam.

AFP Reports Trade Talks

BK2903124493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0841 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Canberra, Australia, March 29 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating interrupted post-election holidays on Monday to hold trade talks with visiting German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, government officials said here. Keating is holidaying in the far north of Queensland following his Labor government's victory at the March 13 poll, but asked to see Kinkel during his three-day visit.

Kinkel, the first German foreign minister to visit Australia since 1957, flew into Port Douglas earlier Monday to meet Keating and Australia's Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans. Government sources said trade issues, especially stalled General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks on freeing world trade, were the main item on the agenda. Kinkel is scheduled to meet Trade Minister Peter Cook and hold further talks with Evans later Monday.

Although Evans is expected to discuss general international issues, including Russian President Boris Yeltsin's battle with his conservative-dominated congress, trade is the main focus of Kinkel's visit.

Australia has a two billion Australian dollar a year trade deficit with Germany, mainly due to a lack of access for Australian goods to the tightly controlled German market, officials here say.

Specific German regulations and the more widespread and harmful European Community trade barriers, particularly on agricultural products and coal, limit Australia's ability to lower the deficit, despite a six percent increase in two-way trade in 1992 to 4.3 billion Australian dollars.

Germany is Australia's eighth largest trading partner and its fifth largest source of foreign investment.

Following business meetings in Sydney on Tuesday, Kinkel flies to New Zealand, then Vietnam, before returning to Germany. The German minister is accompanied by parliamentarians and business representatives.

Tonga

Minister: No Power Handover 'Without a Fight'

BK2803085893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 93

[Text] One of Tonga's royal appointed ministers has warned that it is unrealistic to expect that the South Pacific Island Kingdom's nobles would handover power to the Tongan people without a fight. Minister without portfolio (Maarfu Tukuialafi) was reacting to calls for greater democracy in Tonga.

In an interview in the magazine (MATANGI TONGA), Noble (Maarfu) said he was angered by suggestions of noble should be taken out of Tonga's legislative assembly. He said it was unrealistic to think that power could be taken from any country's noble or government without confrontation taking place.

Tonga's legislative assembly comprises 12 ministers appointed from (?knights) by the king, nine nobles elected by 30 of the kingdom's nobles, and nine commoner members of parliament to represent the people.

Tuvalu

Governor General Refuses To Sign Parliamentary Act

BK2903072193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 93

[Text] Tuvalu's governor general, Sir Toaripi Lauti, has refused to signed an the act of parliament into law. The State-Church Declaration Act was passed by parliament late last month outlining more clearly the role between the two. Sir Toaripi's refusal to sign it may lead to a constitutional crisis. He said he could not sign it because he did not believe it was conducive to promoting or maintaining national harmony.

Under a 1986 revision of the Tuvalu constitution, the governor general can only delay signing an act for seven days after which it automatically becomes law. However, by refusing to sign the governor general risk being dismissed by the prime minister. Radio Tuvalu says the cabinet is contemplating what to do with the unsigned act.

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